

POLK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, September 6, 2011, 7:00pm  
Pea Ridge Community Center  
Mill Spring, NC  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Gasperson, Vice-Chair McDermott, Commissioner Owens, and Commissioner Walker. Commissioner Pack was unable to attend due to illness. Also in attendance were County Manager Whitson, County Attorney Egan, Clerk to the Board Fehrmann, staff, media and citizens.

1. Call to Order – Chair Gasperson called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation – Commissioner Owens gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Walker led the pledge.
4. Approval of Minutes – Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the August 15, 2011, regular BOC meeting minutes, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Walker made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
6. National Moment of Remembrance Resolution – Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the resolution in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
7. Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) Public Hearing – Commissioner Walker made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the proposed ROAP application for September 19, 2011, at 3:00pm in the R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice in the Womack Building, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
8. Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting – Chair Gasperson presented Finance Director Sandra Hughes with the certificate awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association, and commended her on doing an outstanding job.
9. Fire District Insurance Ratings Maps – Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the Fire District Insurance Ratings Maps, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Solid Waste Recycling Report for Fiscal Year 2011 –Commissioner Owens said he supports recycling and thinks the County needs to do more of it, and asked Neal Hall, Polk County Solid Waste Director, to give an overview of the program. Mr. Hall reported the following: Recycling efforts cost the County \$283 from July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2011. In FY 2008 the County received 256 tons of recyclable material, and 517 tons in FY 2010 - an increase he attributes to the mobile recycling program. Boxes have been placed at Sunny View School, and plans are underway to add the hospital and the Columbus post office to the program. Recycling revenues fluctuate relative to the global economy. The State Metal Fund receives its funding through up-front disposal fees paid on new appliances; Counties receive a portion of this fund on a population proportionate basis. The County can also make money by selling metal. The State Electronic Fund receives its funding through disposal fees paid by electronics manufacturers. The County may apply for another grant to purchase an additional recycling trailer and set of boxes in the future; recycling grants typically require a 20% County match. Sixty percent of transfer station/recycling attendant Jennifer Patton's salary comes out of the recycling budget. Most local commercial haulers offer recycling services.

Commissioner Walker and Vice-Chair McDermott commended Ms. Patton on the great job she is doing. Commissioner Walker thanked Mr. Hall and his staff for doing such a wonderful job with the recycling program; the Polk County Community Foundation for an \$11,000 grant to buy the first truck and trailer; the NC Division of Pollution Prevention & Environmental Assistance for grants totaling \$21,333; the Polk County School System for its transfer of \$17,000 from the Sunny View Addition; the previous Board of Commissioners for appointing a Recycling Board; County Manager Whitson for suggesting the mobile recycling unit; graduate student Holly Bulman for researching a model program; and the citizens of Polk County for participating in the program. Commissioner Walker also distributed a Polk County Recycling Energy Savings 2010/2011 chart, a copy of which is on file with these minutes.

11. NCDOT Road Abandonment Request – Vice-Chair McDermott made a motion to abandon 286' of SR 1525, Hugh Champion Rd., (located at the Peniel Rd. end in front of Champion Automotive) from the State maintenance system, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
12. NCDOT Road Addition Requests – Commissioner Owens made a motion to add Winter Dr., Deerfield Dr. and Lighthouse Dr. (located in the Silver Creek Community) to the State maintenance system, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
13. Human Services Building Change Order – Commissioner Walker made a motion to approve Change Order No. 002 to delete all AL5 window blinds, except on the south side of the building, and delete dimmer controls for the SolaTube skylights, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Manager's Report – Commissioner Owens made a motion to declare a 2006 Ford 12-passenger transportation van surplus, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Volunteer Boards for Vote – Joe Cooper was appointed to the Appearance Commission by unanimous vote; Ronald Smith and Rickie McFalls were appointed to the Columbus Fire Tax Commission by unanimous vote; Josh King was appointed to the Transportation Advisory Board by unanimous vote.
16. Volunteer Boards for Review – Applications for the Council on Aging, the JCPC and the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee were reviewed.
17. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – There were no citizen comments.
18. Commissioner Comments – The Commissioners all thanked the Pea Ridge Community Center members for their hospitality. Chair Gasperson, who attended the recent NCACC annual conference along with Vice-Chair McDermott, said the conference was very informative, and encouraged his fellow Commissioners to attend next year.
19. Adjournment – Commissioner Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD  
OF COMMISSIONERS

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Beth Fehrmann  
Clerk to the Board

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Ray Gasperson  
Chair