

## MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF POLK

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 20, 2009

The Polk County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 pm in the R.J. Foster Hall of Justice Womack Building, Columbus, North Carolina.

Those present were Chairperson Cindy Walker, Vice-Chairperson Warren Watson, Commissioners Ray Gasperson, Renee McDermott and Tommy Melton.

Also in attendance were County Manager Ryan Whitson, County Attorney Tom Hix, and Clerk to the Board Anne Britton.

Chairperson Walker made the following announcement:

The Polk County Board of Commissioners will meet in a Work Session in conjunction with the Green Creek Fire Department and the Columbus Fire Department on Tuesday July 21, 2009, at 10 am at the Columbus Fire Department to discuss fire tax districts.

1. Call to Order/Welcome – Chairperson Walker.
2. Invocation – Vice-Chairperson Watson delivered the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Sheriff Hill led the pledge.
4. Approval of Regular Board of Commissioner minutes for June 22, 2009.  
Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda – Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to remove Item #15, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Public Hearing – Transportation Authority – R.O.A.P. grant application.  
Chairperson Walker called the hearing to order. Jewell Carswell was present to answer any questions. There were no citizen comments. Commissioner McDermott made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
7. R.O.A.P. Grant Application - Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to approve the grant application, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Appointment/Reappointments – The Polk County Animal Cruelty Investigators' Team reappointments were Margo Savage, Stephen King, Walker O'Duggan, Alan Merrill and new applicant Libbie Johnson. The applicants have been certified and will be given the oath of office by the Clerk. Their certifications will be filed with the Clerk of Court. Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the reappointments and applicant, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
9. Holland Consulting – Dale Holland provided an update and gave a power point presentation on the Comprehensive Plan. The monthly status report is filed in the Planning Department.
10. Adult Day Care Discussion - Vice-Chairperson Watson requested this item be placed on the agenda. A letter from Glenda Artis, Adult Day Care Consultant with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, was read and the building requirements for two facilities were discussed: Green Creek Family Life Center and the smaller facility at the former Carolina Classical School. Vice-Chairperson Watson stated his interest in moving forward and facilitating a location for adult day care. Larry Brown of Rutherford Life Services was present and reported that they were interested in providing the services for the Polk County program. Commissioner Melton requested that Mr. Brown give a presentation to the Board on August 17, 2009, and for the County Manager to also invite June Beddingfield with St. Luke's Hospital to make a presentation, and any other providers who would be interested in providing services for adult day care. Commissioner Melton also requested estimates on a sprinkler system, even if it is not required; he supports having one if affordable.

Citizen Comments. 1) Betsy Freeman, along with her husband, Don, and son Eric spoke in support of adult day care at the Carolina Classical location. 2) Eric Gass also supported adult day care at that same location.

Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to authorize the County Manager to pursue estimates for needed improvements necessary to comply with the State for adult day care, and bring the information back to the Board on August 17, 2009. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

11. Petition for Road Addition – The petitioners of Twin Hills Lane requested approval by the Board for the DOT to review the addition of 3/10 of a mile to the Secondary Road System. Resolution, petition and GIS map are in the packet. Citizen Comments. 1) Bill Betenbaugh and Eleanor King of Twin Hills Lane requested support from the Board.

Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Altamont Environmental, Inc. – Paul Dow gave a power point presentation on the remedial action for soil and waste at the Little Mountain Landfill. He summarized the completion (in three phases) of the two-foot soil cover. Vice-Chairperson Watson requested that Altamont provide a post construction maintenance plan to keep any deterioration from occurring. Mr. Dow agreed to come back to the Board's August 31, 2009, meeting with a maintenance plan. He also reported that the draft for the updated Solid Waste Management Plan will be posted on the website, and he recommended that the Board review it. He will also have a resolution for approval of this plan at the August 31, 2009, Board meeting.
13. Polk County Library – Proposed fee schedule. Don Hoffman, Chairman of the Library Board, explained the proposed fee increases, including a comparison of fees with neighboring towns and counties. Polk County fees have not been raised since 2001. Discussion followed over reciprocal agreements between other town and county libraries. Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to approve the proposed fee schedule and report back to the Board of possible reciprocal agreements, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
14. Permit Extension Ordinance and the Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances - Cathy Ruth, Planner, provided information on the Polk County draft Permit Extension Ordinance, as well as the amended House and Senate version. It was the consensus of the Board to go ahead and schedule a public hearing, although modifications may need to be made at that time. John Hansborough, Chair of the Planning Board, read a letter of unanimous support for the Ordinance. Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to schedule the public hearing for August 31, 2009, at 7:00pm, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.  
  
Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances - John Hansborough, Chair of the Polk County Planning Board, respectfully requested an extension of 60 days to continue the review process of these two ordinances. They have a scheduled workshop for July 23, 2009. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to approve the extension, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Watson and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Regional Brownfields Initiative Memorandum of Understanding Between Isothermal Planning & Development Commission and Polk County Economic Development - Josh King and Kipp McIntyre were to give a presentation, but this item was removed from the agenda.
16. Identity Theft Protection Program – These regulations were initiated by the Federal Trade Commission with a deadline for approval of August 31, 2009.

Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the program, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Watson and the motion carried unanimously.

17. Veterans Service Office Request to Move to the Basement of the Community Development Building - Darrell Moore, Veterans Service Officer, needs to vacate the Jervey Palmer Building and re-locate his office. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to approve the relocation to the basement of the Community Development Building, with the understanding that the Board hopes a better location will become available in the future, Vice-Chairperson Watson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
18. Sheriff's Department – Purchase of K-9 belonging to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to authorize the County Manager to begin negotiations with the former employee, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
19. Request for Sale of Real Property from the County as a Result of a Tax Foreclosure – County Manager Whitson said he would advertise the sale of this property, Polk County Tax Map Parcel #P48-161, and start with a \$1,000 minimum bid. Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to approve the sale, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
20. Tax Collector June Refund Request and 2008 Settlement of Taxes (G.S. 105-373) - Melissa Bowlin, Tax Collector, was present to answer questions. Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve the June refund request, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the 2008 Settlement of Taxes, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.

21. NCACC Designation of Voting Delegate for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference – Commissioner Melton made a motion to designate Commissioner McDermott as the Board's voting delegate at the annual conference, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Watson and the motion carried unanimously.
22. County Manager's Report – 1) Mark Pumphrey requested closing the library for a staff training day on August 3. It was the consensus of the Board to close the Library for a staff training day.  
  
2) Polk County Animal Control Citation and Board of Appeal. The civil citations would be issued by the Animal Control Officer. The County Manager recommended The Board of Appeal be comprised of the County Manager, Health Department Director and the Sheriff. The Sheriff stated the Animal Control Ordinance needs to be enforced. It needs to be done right and fairly.

Vice-Chairperson Watson would like to review the ordinance and revisit it at the August 3, 2009, Board meeting.

3) Citizen request to schedule a tax appeal meeting regarding back taxes on a horse trailer. The Board set the date of August 3, 2009, at 7:00 pm for the tax appeal.

23. Water Line Extensions – 1) Claude Gilbert Road - \$16,200 - This project includes approximately 2,100 LF of 6-inch water line, 1,000 LF of 2-inch water line, and 2 fire hydrants. This price also includes a markup of 10% for Tugaloo Pipeline to be the contractor and to supervise the work of the ICWD. 2) Strawberry Road - \$2,500 - This project includes approximately 120 LF of 2-inch water line. Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to authorize the County Manager to move forward with the two waterline extensions and begin collecting money from the participants, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
24. Polk County Water Department Billing and Payment Terms – Dave Odom, County Engineer, was present to answer questions. The Board had some questions and revisions. This plan of billing and payment terms will be back on the agenda August 3, 2009, for approval.
25. Board Vacancies – (Review) Reappointments for the Tryon Fire Protection District. The reappointments are Kirtland Flynn, Larry Phillips, and Robert Scruggs. Council on Aging. The applicant is Betsy Freeman, Tryon Township. The applications were reviewed.
- Board Vacancies – (Vote) Belynda Vesper – 1 application for the Mental Health Advisory Board. Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
26. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda items - There were none.
27. Commissioner Comments - The Commissioners thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting. Commissioner McDermott noted a news article pointing out those medical jobs and jobs related to geriatric care are among those most expected to expand in the future. She suggested that Polk County's support of St. Luke's Hospital's vision for the future should help Polk County land additional jobs of those types for local citizens.
28. Adjourn - Commissioner Melton made a motion to adjourn, 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