

POLK COUNTY  
August 16, 2010 7:00PM  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING  
PUBLIC HEARING – TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building  
Columbus, N.C.

PRESENT: Chairperson Walker, Commissioners McDermott, Melton and Watson. Also in attendance were County Manager Whitson, Interim County Attorney Egan, and Clerk to the Board Britton. Vice-Chairperson Gasperson was absent.

1. Call to Order/Welcome – Chairperson Walker called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation – Chairperson Walker gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Watson led the pledge of allegiance.
4. Approval of Minutes – Approval of August 2, 2010, Regular Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Watson and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Public Hearing – Call to Order – Chairperson Walker called the public hearing to order for the purpose of hearing public comment on the Polk County Transportation ROAP application. Jewell Carswell, Director, was present to answer questions. There were no public comments. Commissioner Melton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
7. FY 2011 ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program) County of Polk Application – You have just held the public hearing. Commissioner Melton made the motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
8. Don and Betsy Freeman Adult Day Care Center – Update and discussion of the dedication. Commissioner Watson requested this item be placed on the agenda. Commissioner Watson reported that the grading was finally completed after much delay with the rainy weather, and the construction of the canopy has begun. He thinks it should be completed sometime in September. He would like to set the dedication for October 6, 2010, or if that date is not possible, October 3, 2010, at 1:00 pm with light refreshments. Mr. Watson will check with Mrs. Freeman and

Mr. Brown (Rutherford Life Services) on the availability of that date. Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve the October 3 date at 1:00 pm and move forward with the dedication, seconded by Commissioner McDermott. The plaque has been ordered for the center. Chairperson Walker and Commissioner Watson will be working on the presentation, ribbon cutting and a display case. Commissioner Watson felt there needs to be low signage and landscaping for the entrance to the center. He requested that Mr. Whitson and Mr. Cannon discuss what is appropriate and report back at the September 7th board meeting. With a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the floor, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Walker commented that it has been a long path to get this adult day health center and thanked Commissioner Watson for leading the charge. There have been some bumps along the way. It wasn't all real smooth sailing. He claimed it at the first meeting in January and staked out his claim. We have looked at different locations (ex. Green Creek Family Life Center). We had to have a public hearing and get the zoning changed. I now realize that those first cost figures that come out, we don't need to attach ourselves to, because it costs much more than that. Chairperson Walker stated that the additional needs included a sprinkler system, a handicapped bathroom and a wider road. She researched and found the Janirve Foundation which funded a \$25,000 grant through the Polk County Council on Aging with the assistance of Commissioner Watson and Laura Lynch (Council on Aging). We stuck with it and didn't always agree on things but we kept going. It took us a long time to get here, and I am glad we are here, but that is the way it goes with projects. The price we hear, at first, is not necessarily the price it is going to be. I am proud of all your efforts, Commissioner Watson, and of this Board and for getting it done. Commissioner Watson reported that he attended a grant writing class which was helpful and gave him the necessary tools to complete the grant.

9. “Tryon’s 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” – Chairperson Walker brought the Board up to date on the activities for the celebration which begins September 3, 2010, with a golf tournament at the historic Tryon County Club. She announced all upcoming events will be posted on the [www.firstpeaknc.com](http://www.firstpeaknc.com) or [www.tryonevents.com](http://www.tryonevents.com). She encouraged the Commissioners to attend some of the events.
10. Assignment of Bid of \$3,911.53 – County Manager Whitson explained the County’s bid on a foreclosure and an assignment by resolution. Commissioner Melton made a motion to accept the assignment of bid for \$3,911.53 resolution, seconded by Commissioner Watson and the motion carried unanimously.
11. North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association - In the packet is a letter from Karen C. Smith, AICP, and Co-Chair of the NCAPA Awards Committee Co-Chair. She announced that the Committee has selected the Polk County 20/20 Vision Plan to receive a 2010 North Carolina Marvin Collins Planning Award in the Outstanding Planning Award – Comprehensive Planning (Small Community)

category. Commissioner McDermott requested this item be placed on the agenda and reported on this highly coveted award. She praised the Polk County Planning Department, Holland Consultants and the Polk County 20/20 Visioning Committee. (Applause.) There will be an official presentation of the award at the November 1, 2010, regular Board of Commissioner meeting.

12. By-Laws Polk County Recreation Advisory Board – There have been 4 revisions made to the by-laws. Director Patty Aldred was present and requested that the advisory board would like to make these revisions. (1) Reduce the number of board members from 11 to 9; (2) The board will meet every other month instead of quarterly. Commissioner McDermott requested that the following No. 3 and 4 be included in the By-laws; (3) Should a member of the board be absent more than two consecutive meetings without adequate reason they may be removed by the Recreation Advisory Board, and; (4) The terms of office shall be staggered so that an equal number of members will expire each year. Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the revisions, seconded by Commissioner Watson and the motion carried unanimously.
13. Polk County Zoning Ordinance – Text amendments. The Public Hearing was held August 2, 2010. Commissioner McDermott made a motion to adopt amending section nine of the Zoning Ordinance by modifying proposed section 10.8.4 and also amending the ordinance by adding a new section ten to Article XII, seconded by Commissioner Watson and the motion carried unanimously. These revised amendments are recorded and filed in the Ordinance Book in the Clerk's Office.
14. Declare Surplus – Maintenance Department - 1998 Ford F150, mileage 135,550. Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Budget Amendment – Finance Officer Sandra Hughes made the request. BA #3 Animal Control Addition of \$2,100 to increase revenue and expense for donations for the purchase of a dog air box. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve BA #3, seconded by Commissioner McDermott and the motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Walker commended the efforts made in getting donations for this purchase.
16. Board Vacancies (Review) – Economic Development Commission (1) application; (1) vacancy. The application was reviewed.
17. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items - (1) Keith Holbert requested his letter be printed in the minutes verbatim:

*8/16/2010*

*Thank you, madam chairman.*

*My name is Keith Holbert.*

*My father is a world war 2 veteran that landed on Normandy Beach. I also am a veteran of the Vietnam Era.*

*I am ashamed of some of the members of this board for using Mr. Howard Green, a well respected citizen of this county, by embellishing his military past. Mr. Gasperson--You and Mrs. Walker know that it was a show for Mr. Gasperson's re-election. That was a low thing to do.*

*Mr. Whitson, you being a military man and subject to the UCMJ should have known better than to have been a party to this kind of behavior. I think you owe every veteran in Polk County an apology.*

18. Commissioner Comments - Commissioner McDermott reported that she had met with the Census Bureau representative and the Superintendent of Schools, Bill Miller, who commended Polk County's good return on the census. Getting a good return on the mail-in forms saved the government many many millions of dollars and they were very gracious and thanked us all for doing that. They also wanted us to know that the preliminary information is available to us at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) and invite us to go there and learn things about our community and county. Commissioner Watson thanked everyone for an efficient meeting and also is looking forward to the remainder of the year and to the opening of the Don & Betsy Freeman Center. Chairperson Walker praised the "Life Guards for Shade" fundraising by the Recreation Department and the community. They raised \$760.00, and the families and kids had lots of fun.
19. Adjourn - Commissioner Melton made a motion to adjourn the shortest meeting on record (39 minutes), seconded by Commissioner McDermott 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