

## MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2008

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners reconvened its meeting at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2008. Members present: George W. Ward, Jr., Chairman, Jeremiah Jefferies, Vice-Chairman, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Larry G. Hamlett, Kenneth D. Travis, and C. Hester Vernon, III. Also present: Gwen Y. Vaughn, Finance Officer. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Ward opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

### BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board held a work session on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

The Board reviewed and discussed the CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS budget.

After discussion, Chairman Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter that a request be made to the Board of Education that they fund the Teachers' Supplement this year from their Fund Balance. The motion failed by a vote of four to two with Commissioners Hall, Hamlett, Travis, and Vernon voting no, and Commissioner Jefferies absent.

Ms. Gwen Vaughn, Finance Officer, reviewed with the Board a proposal that she and the County Manager prepared in which the tax rate was reduced to a revenue neutral rate of 62.9 cents, and still maintained the three percent cost-of-living adjustment for County employees. Ms. Vaughn stated that if the current tax rate of 67.2 cents was reduced to a revenue neutral rate of 62.9, \$615,177 would need to be cut from the proposed budget.

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to take the Teachers' Supplement in the amount of \$231,000 out of the Proposed 2008-2009 Budget, with that amount to go into the County's Fund Balance. The motion carried by a vote of four to two with Commissioners Ward and Vernon voting no, and Commissioner Jefferies absent.

(At 6:20 p.m. Commissioner Jefferies entered the meeting).

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to reduce Capital Outlay by \$100,000, and following discussion, withdrew their motion.

The Board reviewed and discussed the PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the DEBT SERVICE/PUBLIC SCHOOLS budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the DEBT SERVICE/INSTALLMENTS budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the CONTINGENCY budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the COURT FACILITY budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the REGISTER OF DEEDS – AUTOMATION budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the LIBRARY FUND budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SECTION 8 HOUSING AUTHORITY budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SPECIAL FIRE DISTRICT FUND budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the REVALUATION FUND budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SENIOR CENTER PROJECT budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the EQUIPMENT/AUTOMATION FUND budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT FUND budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND budget with no changes made. The Board discussed requests for additional solid waste convenience center sites on the Hodges Dairy Road and in the Semora and Hightowers communities. The Board agreed to have the Solid Waste Director conduct a study to determine the feasibility of additional solid waste convenience center sites as well as reviewing the current location of the sites. Commissioner Vernon recommended that a Recycling Program be developed for the County.

The Board reviewed and discussed the CASWELL DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed a memo from Ms. Delores Dameron, Register of Deeds, in which she requested that the salary of the newly elected Register of Deeds be increased to \$39,072, the Assistant Register of Deeds' salary be increased to \$24,240, and the new Deputy's salary be set at \$22,032. After discussion, Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by

Commissioner Hamlett to set the salary of the newly elected Register of Deeds at an annual rate of \$35,000 and that the salaries of the Assistant Register of Deeds and Deputy Register of Deeds remain at the current rate. The motion failed by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Hall, Jefferies, and Vernon voting no.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Carter moved to set the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 at 67.2 cents, which will include the two additional deputy positions and six vehicles for the Sheriff's Office, three percent cost-of-living adjustment for County employees, include the Teachers' Supplement as requested, and all changes made as presented. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Hall suggested that the Board establish a tax rate and then agree on expenditures.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to rescind a previous motion to take the Teachers' Supplement in the amount of \$231,000 out of the Proposed 2008-2009 Budget. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Hall, Hamlett, and Travis voting no.

After considerable discussion concerning setting a tax rate, Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to set the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 at 65 cents per \$100 valuation, which will include the two additional deputy positions and six vehicles for the Sheriff's Office, three percent cost-of-living adjustment for County employees, the Teachers' supplement as requested, appropriate \$314,742 to go into Fund Balance, and all changes made as presented and approved by the Board. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Ward, Hall, and Travis voting no.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20 p.m. Chairman Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Vernon to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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Wanda P. Smith  
Clerk to the Board

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George W. Ward, Jr.  
Chairman

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