MINUTES – APRIL 16, 2018

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Caswell County Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2018. Members present: Nathaniel Hall, Chairman, Rick McVey, Vice-Chairman, Sterling Carter, William E. Carter, Jeremiah Jefferies, David Owen and Kenneth D. Travis. Also present: Bryan Miller, County Manager and Brian Ferrell, County Attorney. Paula P. Seamster, Clerk to the Board recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Hall welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chairman Hall opened the meeting with a moment of Silent Prayer. He asked that everyone keep in mind the neighbors in the northern part of the county specifically Ruffin because they were hit pretty hard during the storm last night as well as the neighbors in the southwest area in Greensboro.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Commissioners and all the guests in the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner McVey to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

The following items were included on the Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of Minutes of March 27, 2018 Special Meeting

B. Approval of Minutes of April 2, 2018 Regular Meeting

C. Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2018 Special Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Hall opened the floor to Public Comments.

Ms. Lisa Watlington came before the Board and made the following statement:

Ms. Watlington stated that she came before the Board as a concerned citizen of Caswell County and her concern is about the school bond. She does not agree with the bond referendum for the high school because either way the financing goes whether it is through the USDA loan or with a bond it will raise the tax rate in the county. She added that 14% of the residents in Caswell County are already below the poverty level and this will increase household between $70 and $100 depending upon which way the board decides to finance this project. Ms. Watlington questioned the need of a new high school. She added that she was in the southwestern part of the state on Thursday and she visited a high school that was 61 years old and it was in pristine condition. The bathrooms were working, lights were working, and locks were working. She asked the principal of the school what they did to keep the school up and it was not on the taxpayers. The school held fundraisers, they budgeted for future repairs. Five years ago they put in bullet proof window and two years ago they added new floors to the school. Ms. Watlington asked “Are you willing…Trump is willing to drain the swamp in Washington…are you willing to drain that taxpayers in this county by improving something that we probably do not need because we can get by with it in other ways?” She asked the Board to think long and hard because they are elected officials.

Mr. Thomas Wright came before the Board to make the following statement:

Mr. Wright stated that on March 5, 2018 the county attorney, Mr. Ferrell, reported to the Board that that his property tax issue was resolved. Mr. Wright stated that he went to the Tax office today to check to see if it had been resolved and it has not. It is still listed on the ACS tax system. He showed the Board that he had a letter from Mr. Bernard dated November 28, 2017 confirming the value of his property after a decision by the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Mr. Wright asked the Board who gave Mr. Bernard permission to send him a letter like he received. He added that this is one of the scare tactics that is received by the tax office. He added that Mr. Ferrell answers all the questions for Mr. Bernard so he asked the Board to ask Mr. Ferrell to ask Mr. Bernard where this information in the letter came from. He said he would leave the letter with the Board.

Chairman Hall responded that he was a little confused but he added that he would follow up on this. He would get with general counsel and take it from there.

Mr. Steve Oestreicher came before the Board and made the following statement:

“There is little question that we need an upgrade to the existing Bartlett Yancey High School. Security, Library/Media Center and the overall facilities are either non-existent or dated and a detriment to recruiting new, innovative teachers. We are however, at a critical tipping point in the county with regards to taxation and achieving a good return on our investments in infrastructure. The question is will upgrading the high school upgrade the quality and job readiness of our students to the point of bringing in new businesses to employ them, here in the county? Or will the graduating students joint the throngs of workers going outside the county to jobs away from Caswell? Further, I applaud the Commissioners for their commitment to put the funding for the high school in front of the voters rather than making a unilateral decision to do so without a public decision. I do believe that the citizens of our county will not be in favor of a 10-20% increase in their taxes, represented by a $40 million loan, bond or other instrument. I also really doubt if the LGC (Local Government Commission) will approve an unprecedented long term (whether 30 or 40 years) USDA loan and the requisite dramatic increase in the county fund balance. Another way must be found to upgrade the education and training our children receive in the county. I personally do not appreciate people who complain and or highlight a problem without offering at least thoughts on a solution. With that in mind I offer the following thoughts for your consideration as possible ways to address the high school funding: 1)Vigorous lobbying, support and relentless pursuit of the NC House/Senate bill for school improvements that earmarks $16 million for Caswell County. 2) Identification and recruitment of one or more talented individuals who are successful at writing grants, charging them with the obtaining of grants for at least $15 million to be used for the high school upgrade. 3) Challenging the School Board to go back and restructure their proposal as a series of phased improvements that can be built incrementally as the above funding materializes, while staying at their Option 1 limit of ~$40 million. Further, designing a phase 1 for the much needed security items for the existing high school buildings, perhaps at $3 million plus the existing balance $3.8 million? 4) Putting on the ballot for this November, the approval to obtain a USDA loan (for no more than 5-10 years) for that $3 million to pay for the above mentioned security installation. 5) Creation of a committee or commission to seek out private contributions from our wealthiest and civic-minded county residents or former residents to fund education improvements and develop strategic initiatives to increase the influx of new businesses to Caswell County. I do appreciate and recognize the work the Commissioners do and am offering these thoughts not to tell you how to do your job, but as some ideas that you may consider. I have a copy of what I just read and I will give it to Paula.”

Chairman Hall asked if anyone else would like to speak during Public Comments. With no further comments Chairman Hall closed Public Comments.

RECOGNITIONS

Chairman Hall asked if there were any recognitions.

Commissioner Owen recognized all of the county’s law enforcement, safety personnel, volunteer firemen and departments across the state that responded to the tornado that just hit. He added that no one knows how much work they do because they go out and come back and no one ever knows it but we see the results the next day. He also gave thanks to the Lord that most of Caswell County was spared of major damage.

SENIOR TAR HEEL LEGISLATIVE STHL UPDATE

Ms. Sylvia Banks stated that she and Marilyn Corbett attended the 72nd session of the North Carolina Senior Tar Heel Legislature in Chapel Hill on March 13th and 14th. She added that there were some great speakers this year including Donna White, Representative to the North Carolina General Assembly; Van Braxton, Directory/Deputy Commissioner, Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP); Dorothy Crawford, Macon County Delegate was recognized for celebrating her 100th birthday and Kaye White, President Friends of NCSTHL, gave a report on donations. The top 5 priorities are: Increase HCCBG funding, Increase funding for Senior Centers, Sustain and expand Project C.A.R.E., Strengthen and fund North Carolina’s Adult Protective Services Program (APS) and Reestablish the study commission on aging. Ms. Banks has agreed to be the Sergeant at Arms again as was as the Co-Chair for the Enrichment Committee. Ms. Corbett was asked to be the Secretary for the Advocate Issue Committee and she accepted that responsibility. She added that Caswell County is being highly visible in this group.

Commissioner Owen thanked Ms. Banks for what she does for Caswell County.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Ms. Mindy Satterfield, HR Director, stated that it was time to renew the health insurance for the county. She presented two plans to the Board: one was the current plan and the second was dual richer plan. The current plan will have a 7.3% increase in premiums. This rate originally started at 18%. The dual richer plan has an 11.6% increase. Ms. Satterfield added that whatever plans the county will offer to the employees the same amount will need to be funded. The current plan went from $544.72 to $583.92. She stated that the Board can fund the current plan and then the employees can pay the difference for the richer plan or the employees can pay something for both plans.

Chairman Hall asked Ms. Satterfield to explain the differences between the two plans. Ms. Satterfield responded that Option 1 had no changes but Option 2 has lower co-pays, more specialty care visits, Urgent care visits co-pay will decrease, deductibles are lower, out of pocket maximums are lower.

Mr. Miller stated that staff’s recommendation is to offer 2 plans this year. He recommended that the employees participate in payment of premiums for the dual richer plan. He added that the Board needs to decide if it is okay with the 7.3% increase with the current plan and if the county will pay the whole amount or if the employees will participate in the cost of this plan.

Chairman Hall stated that there are two options for the employees and two decisions for the Board. The Board will have to decide on the options and the second decision will be if the employees will be required to participate. He asked when the Board would need to make a decision. Ms. Satterfield responded that the county would have to give 60 days’ notice to the employees on any changes so May 1st would be the deadline to implement changes on July 1st.

Commissioner Owen asked if the Option 1 increase has been included in the preliminary budget. Mr. Miller responded that it is included.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that he was not in favor of asking the employees to participate in the cost of Option 1 but he would agree with employee participation on Option 2.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman I would like to definitely thank staff for their work in this. I feel a whole lot better personally because the Board was facing 18% and now 7.3% and that was something that I thought I was not going to see. My suggestion is to keep the first option as Commissioner Bill Carter stated and not have the employees to pay into that because there are some employees that would like to keep that because it because it satisfied their needs but I would also like to say there was a great need for Option 2 and employees will need to pay into that for the services that are offered and I would like to make a motion to that affect that we keep the basic plan as is and have option 2 available for employees to pay the difference.”

Commissioner S. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner W. Carter to offer Option 1 at no cost to the employees and offer Option 2 with employee participation with the difference in cost.

Commissioner Owen stated that he understands that no one wants to pay but most employees have to pay something for insurance. The Board needs to consider this before voting. He did want both options but he preferred not to vote tonight because the budget has not been discussed.

Commissioner Travis stated that most of the county employee were hired with the intention of the county paying their insurance and that is what they were told when they were hired. He added that new hires could be charged something for their insurance but not the current employees. He agreed to offer both options but the Option 1 should be free to the employee and Option 2 the employees pay the difference. He added that the Board needed to look after the county employees.

Commissioner Owen asked the county manager to explain the personnel policy that all county employees were explained when they were hired concerning insurance. Mr. Miller responded that since the current Human Resource Director has been with the county all county employees have been told when hired that the county pays 100% of the insurance now but this may change in the future but that is only for employees that have been hired in the last 5 years. Commissioner added that if the Board decides to stay the same with current employees but future employees need to start sharing in the cost of the health insurance premiums.

Chairman Hall stated that as a point of information previous boards cannot bind future boards so while it is a good argument that employees expect free insurance and that is a good argument but times have changed and the cost has to be shared by someone and the county is at the point now there it is spending $1.6 million a year and the Board has to be practical about the way it proceeds.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2 with Commissioner McVey and Owen voting no.

Ms. Satterfield thanked the Board.

APPROVAL OF CASWELL COUNTY HUNTING & WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY-LAWS REVISIONS

Commissioner Owen stated that there is only one issue that has to be covered, the Board had voted to have the county manager, one commissioner, one alternate commissioner and 5 citizen members as well as a North Carolina Wildlife Officer who will not be a voting member which totals 8 members and the Board voted for 7 members on this committee so the Board needs to vote to have 7 voting members on this committee. The other parts of the by-laws the Board has approved.

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to approve the Caswell County Hunting & Wildlife Advisory Committee By-Laws as amended.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman while we have it sitting here I know we have discussed this last year, I have reviewed it again and I have a few grammatical suggestions or amendments to make to it, very simple but it will allow the wording to be as it should be. In the Third Article of the By-Laws it says ‘County Manager shall serve ex officio’ we just need to simply add the word ‘as ex officio members’ to that sentence. The second suggestion I have is in Section Three it says ‘shall be held at quarterly’ I would suggest removing the word ‘at’ in there.”

Commissioner S. Carter asked “Do we need a motion to approve this?” Mr. Ferrell responded that if Commissioner Owen would accept this as a friendly amendment it could be added to the motion on the table. Commissioner Owen agreed to the amendment.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Board took a brief recess.

FLEET CAR MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Chairman Hall stated that over the last 2 to 3 months he had heard concerns from at least the Health department about how the fleet cars are managed specifically regarding the lack of a policy on maintenance and repairs. Another issue that came up was budgeting for maintenance and repairs, oil changes, tires, brakes. One of the questions Chairman Hall was how is the county maintaining the warranties on the new vehicles as well as just cleaning and washing the vehicles. Chairman Hall has mentioned this to the county manager and the county manager informed him of the current practice and procedure and this is that is up to the departments to take care of these items. Chairman Hall stated that he is mentioned this to the Board because he thinks there needs to be an established policy. He added that he has problems with delegating this responsibility to someone that does not have the knowledge to handle these responsibilities. He stated that he has these concerns because the county has spent between $30 and $50,000 for repairs to the ambulances and most of these repairs were due to them not being properly maintained. Chairman Hall stated that a policy needed to be written for this and a person needed to be assigned the responsibility for all county vehicles including the ambulances.

Commissioner McVey asked Chairman Hall if he wanted someone totally over all county vehicles. Chairman Hall responded yes.

Commissioner W. Carter asked if the vehicles are assigned to certain departments or are they checked out to different departments when needed. Mr. Miller responded the vehicles are assigned to certain departments for a period of time before they are rotated in and out. Mr. Miller added that the last ambulance repair was not a maintenance issue; it was a design flaw in the engine from Ford. He agreed with Chairman Hall that the county need a policy.

Commissioner McVey asked if there is someone on staff that has the training or ability to handle the maintenance of the vehicles. Mr. Miller responded that he did think there was someone that had all the expertise to handle all of the county vehicles.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that he thought EMS had someone that was in charge of the maintenance of all the vehicles and at the Sheriff’s Department it is up to the individual officer to handle the maintenance of the vehicle. He added that he thought that each department should have someone in charge to make sure that the maintenance is being done on the vehicles. Chairman Hall responded that having someone in charge is different from having someone capable of taking care of the vehicles. He added that the Health Department is trained to do healthwise things but they are not trained to change tires or oil or to hassle with someone at a garage about what repairs are needed.

Commissioner McVey asked if this included the sheriff’s vehicles. Chairman Hall responded yes all of these cars are part of the county’s fleet. Commissioner McVey then asked if the county would be looking for someone to take over the maintenance of the county’s vehicles. Chairman Hall responded yes but a policy needs to be developed as well.

Mr. Miller stated that staff is more than happy to work on a policy and he added that the maintenance director is currently working on a policy. He did not think the maintenance director has the ability to oversee all county vehicles.

Commissioner S. Carter asked “Mr. Chairman I have a question, we have the maintenance director working on a policy?” Mr. Miller responded yes. Commissioner S. Carter continued “When did this conversation occur because we are talking currently about needing a policy?” Mr. Miller responded that the maintenance director has been working on this policy for a while. Commissioner S. Carter asked “I just want to follow up; I would just like to know when this conversation might have occurred in the past? I remember talking about the ambulances and everything but not a policy for our fleet vehicles.”

Commissioner McVey asked if anyone knows the cost of maintaining these vehicles. Mr. Miller responded that he did not know right off hand. Chairman Hall responded that this information would have to be gathered.

Chairman Hall stated that he did not think the Board would resolve this tonight but he would like to set some parameters for a policy. One decision that needs to be made is should the county have someone in charge of the fleet vehicles.

Commissioner McVey stated that cost needed to be compared between the county doing this or contracting it out like it is being done now.

Chairman Hall stated to the county manager that staff can look at the budgets to see what was budgeted for auto repairs and maintenance but he asked the manager to poll the departments to find out what has been spent for repairs and maintenance. Mr. Miller responded that he could do this. Chairman Hall continued that this would give the hard costs of maintenance but not the soft costs as far as a department head going to a garage sitting for 2 or 3 hours while the vehicle is being worked on. Chairman Hall stated that with this information it will help the Board to decide if the county wants to handle all maintenance on the vehicles or to just have someone in charge of making sure the vehicles are maintained as they should be.

Chairman Hall asked that this be put back on the next agenda.

HIGH SCHOOL FINANCING

Mr. Miller stated that at the last commissioners meeting the Board asked for 2 items to be brought back to a regular meeting. The first is the term of the loan. He added that he thought the consensus of the Board at the last discussion was a 30 year term on the loan. The second item was whether or not to put on a referendum for the 2018 November ballot.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that since the last meeting he has given the term of the loan some considerable thought and the 30 year loan would mean a 7 cent tax increase and the 40 year loan would be a 5.3 cent tax increase and added that if the county were to finance for 40 years it could always be paid off early. Commissioner McVey asked if any other buildings had been paid off early in the past. Commissioner W. Carter responded that there have been several loans paid off early but not necessarily buildings.

Commissioner Jefferies stated that he voted for 40 years for the taxpayers. He added that he is looking at the welfare of the schools and what Caswell County needs.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman, I am taking what Commissioner Jefferies said I am also sensitive to the tax burden of any of these options; I would like to request another consensus vote on the term if that is okay and go around the table on this issue.” Chairman Hall responded that before the Board does this the county manager was going through these items in order but he thought that Item D should be discussed first because there is some additional information that is going to be required from staff and this issue will impact all of the issues that are being discussed. Chairman Hall asked the county manager or general counsel to discuss Item D on the agenda, Resolution of the Caswell County Board of Commissioners to Authorize Applications to the North Carolina Local Government Commission for its approval of general obligation school bonds of Caswell County, North Carolina.

Mr. Miller stated that the commissioners have a resolution before them tonight and two spaces in the resolution are not filled in and that is the not great than dollar amount and the estimated real property tax increase. These two items are of tremendous importance as the project is moved forward because once the county goes through the LGC process it is incredible difficult to go through the LGC again if the amounts change. No one knows what that number is right now, the School Board has given the amount of $33,775,440 but there is a budget request for $1.4 million for the upcoming budget that the Board needs to consider as well and whether or not it should be included in the referendum to address the safety needs at the schools. There are other expenses that the county is likely to see which are environmental impact fees or assessment fees, bond counsel fees, fees for financial advisors, as well as other fees as this process moves forward. The county is at the point that these numbers need to be looked at and come up with a real firm number for the not great than number. Contingency fees also need to be looked at with the project. He thinks this can be done within the next 2 weeks. Mr. Miller asked the Board for authorization for him to move forward with the process. He added that he would like to suggest approving the resolution at the next Board meeting.

Commissioner W. Carter asked if this meant that the Board could not vote tonight to put it before the voters of Caswell County. Mr. Ferrell responded that what he thinks county manager is saying is that there is not enough information tonight as the Board sits here to inform the resolution that would enable the Board to adopt it. He added that the point of the resolution is that it is a notice to the public to put it on the referendum. This notice is a very important step and he did not think the manager had enough information tonight to fill in the blanks with the appropriate numbers. The manager will have these numbers in May and according to bond counsel if this resolution is adopted in May that is enough time to get to the LGC as well as to put it on the referendum for November.

Commissioner Jefferies asked the county manager needed to move forward. Mr. Miller responded that he needed the Board to authorize him to move forward with the process to bring back a resolution to the Board.

Commissioner Travis asked if the security amount was going to be added to the other cost for the school. Chairman Hall responded that the more the Board gets into this the more the Board sees it needs to get deeper. He did not think it was the Board’s intent to scuttle the project but the Board needs to know what they are going to commit to. He added that the security is new but it is not all for one school. Commissioner Travis asked which was more important, the security of all the schools or building one school. Chairman Hall responded that the Board will have to answer this question. Mr. Miller stated that staff can provide the Board with several different scenarios if that is what the Board wishes. He suggested one option with the $1.4 million included and one without. Commissioner Travis stated that everything needed to be figured in because the county does not have the $1.4 million for security because taxes will need to be increased to do the security.

Commissioner Owen asked if the Board could vote tonight to put this on the referendum in November. Mr. Ferrell responded that the Board can do that but recognize that there are some hurdles that have to be jumped and resolutions to be approved before this can be done.

Commissioner W. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to put the school funding on a bond referendum and the amount will be obtained later from staff on the costs. The motion carried by a vote of six to one with Commissioner Travis voting no.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I don’t understand the process that we are pursuing with this with the options that the School Board gave us. We basically have two options, a full amount and a reduced amount. The full amount is $44 million and the reduced amount is $33 million and they are putting forward $3 million towards this which reduce it to about $39 million or $30 million. I feel like determining which of those options at this point we would like would only help our staff, general counsel, county manager to determine what that final figure may be depending on contingency fees for the bond counsel, etc. I feel like we are just totally ignoring it.” Chairman Hall agreed but he also added that because staff is here they understand so when staff comes back they will start with one of these two options and present it to the Board. Commissioner S. Carter continued “I will maintain the suggestion that I mentioned.” Commissioner Owen responded that he thought there was a consensus on the $30 million. Commissioner S. Carter stated “That was my understanding but there is still a lot of gray in our discussions over the last couple of meetings, gray area, and I feel like we have not strongly made it known that that is what we are looking to pursue. We just had a vote on the referendum, why can’t we have a vote on what we had a consensus on to do at the last meeting?” Commissioner Owen responded that this figure could change. Commissioner S. Carter continued “By an exponential amount, no.” Commissioner W. Carter asked if Commissioner Carter wanted to vote on the term of the loan. Commissioner S. Carter responded “No sir.” Chairman Hall responded that Commissioner Carter wants to confirm the amounts that the Board will be working with. Commissioner W. Carter stated that the Board does not have this amount yet. Chairman Hall responded that he knew that but he thought the Board would be better served to give staff a couple more weeks to get the numbers together. Commissioner S. Carter stated “But my point is we would not even if that information added we would not all of a sudden change our minds and say oh let’s do the full amount of $47 million.” Chairman Hall responded that the Board would probably no. Commissioner S. Carter continued “So that is my point and the manager just mentioned something about 10% to me and I would like for him to clarify that to the Board.” Mr. Miller responded that when he spoke earlier he mentioned contingency fees that needed to be addressed, environmental assessments that needed to be completed, attorney fees, bond counsel fees, financial fees, and the county is not sure of the costs yet so these things need to be looked at and feel confident that everything has been included in the final numbers. He added that he did not know if this was 10% but the numbers needed to be investigated more and have better numbers for the Board before the Board proceeds with the resolution. Chairman Hall agreed that this needed to be done before it is presented and approved by the Board because staff will be held accountable for these numbers. Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman I will make one final comment, I am extremely perturbed that this did not come up until now and that’s my opinion.” Chairman Hall responded that this is so noted.

Commissioner W. Carter asked if the numbers would be figured on 30 years or 40 years. Chairman Hall responded that the Board does not know that yet but when the Board gets the numbers it can be voted on.

MY WELLNESS, MY WAY WORKSITE WELLNESS OPPORTUNITY

Mr. Miller stated that this is the 4th or 5th time this item has been in front of the commissioners. Basically the policy says the Board will authorize the My Wellness, My Way committee to schedule activities and/or workshops that the county employees will be allowed to attend those activities and/or workshops. At the last meeting the Board considered a policy that would allow employees to exercise during work hours 30 minutes twice a week whether that was participating in wellness activities or exercising on their own and that did not pass, the vote was 3 to 3. He added that in light of the good work that the wellness committee is doing it was brought back up at the end of the meeting that the wellness committee was doing a lot of good informational seminars and did not want that policy to hinder the work of the wellness committee and what they are trying to achieve. Healthcare is becoming a staggering cost. Mr. Miller stated that the Board directed him to bring this back before the Board another way.

Chairman Hall asked if the difference was there is no time indicated. Mr. Miller responded that there is no time indicated and the employee cannot participate on their own accord, they have to participate in the structured activity.

Chairman Hall asked for comments from the Board.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that being a person with diabetes he felt the wellness program was important for the county employees and it will help with the cost of the health insurance as well. He added that he is in favor of the county manager’s proposal.

Commissioner W. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to approve the manager’s request. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER’S UPDATES

FY 2018-2019 Budget Update

Mr. Miller stated that the Board has a working copy of the budget; this is the information that has been presented to the county manager and finance director from the departments. Mr. Miller stated that he plans to present his budget message to the Board along with his budget recommendation at the next meeting.

Personnel Policy Work Session Dates

Mr. Miller stated an email and a Doodle Poll went out to the Board to find out when the first work session could take place on the Personnel Policy. Only 3 responses were received. Mr. Miller asked the clerk to send out another Doodle Poll with different dates because the original dates are not workable now.

Economic Development

Mr. Miller stated that tomorrow morning; April 17th from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m. there is an Economic Development discussion at Piedmont Community College in Room 202. He encouraged everyone to attend. This is a second session for this workshop.

ANNOUNCMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A. District Meeting – April 25, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. – Chatham County.

B. Commissioners’ Joint Meeting with the Rockingham County and Stokes County

 Board of Commissioners - Thursday, April 26, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. – Economic

 Development Center, Reidsville, NC

The clerk read a thank you letter from Crossroads. “Dear Caswell County Commissioners, Thank you for allowing CrossRoads, Child Advocacy Center and Sexual Assault Resource and Response Center, to put out pinwheels and banners for Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness. We here at CrossRoads serve children and adult victims of sexual assault and trauma through confidential counseling, advocacy, child medical treatment, education and community awareness. With your gracious permission we are now able to reach even more victims and prevent more victims through awareness. As with any business like ours awareness is our greatest means of prevention. We are so grateful to you all for allowing us to reach more victims here in Caswell County through our pinwheel promotion, banners of prevention and lighting of the courthouse for Child Abuse Prevention Month. If there are any other ways that we can better serve the citizens of Caswell County at this time or in the future please let us know. Thank you again for your support and we look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Caswell County in the future. Sincerely, Shanna Poole, Victims Advocate, PREA Support.”

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 p.m. Commissioner W. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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Paula P. Seamster Nathaniel Hall

Clerk to the Board Chairman

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