

**STATE OF NORTH
CAROLINA**
COUNTY OF STOKES

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**OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY
GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH
CAROLINA
MONDAY MAY 10, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a Regular Meeting in the Stokes County Administration Building in the Commissioners Chambers located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday May 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Board of Commissioners Present: Chairman Andy Nickelston, Vice Chairman Sonya Cox, Commissioner Wayne Barneycastle, Commissioner Ronnie Mendenhall, and Commissioner Rick Morris

County Administration Present: County Manager Jake Oakley, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver, County Attorney Ty Browder, and Finance Director Julia Edwards

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nickelston called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Mendenhall delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Nickelston lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited those in attendance to join.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Barneycastle moved to approve the Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Public Comments

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for Public Comments at 6:01 pm.

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Joy Quesenberry
1180 Spainhour Mill Road
Pinnacle, NC

RE: Relocating Pinnacle Green Box Site

Ms. Quesenberry spoke in opposition of relocating the Pinnacle Green Box Site and read the following Resolution adopted by the Pinnacle Ruritan Club March 22, 2021:

WHEREAS, the Pinnacle Ruritan Club, a duly organized division of the Ruritan National organization does hereby approve and submit this Resolution to the Stokes County Commissioners of Danbury, North Carolina.

WHEREAS, the Pinnacle Ruritan Club does hereby disagree with the proposal to locate a "dump transfer station" behind the Pinnacle Volunteer Station on High Bridge Road.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned site would possibly become a deterrent for individuals desiring to move to Pinnacle and desiring to use the proposed Pinnacle Ruritan Community Center for family and community functions. Church and Boy Scout events would be limited in that area as well. The old mill building located on Mill Street is a hazard and would also be dangerous to the increased traffic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors and members of the **Pinnacle Ruritan Club** does hereby **OPPOSE** the proposed location of the Stokes County Dump Transfer Station to High Bridge Road, Pinnacle, North Carolina

With no other individuals signed up to speak Chairman Nickelston closed the floor for Public Comments at 6:03 pm.

COMMENTS - Managers/Commissioners

Commissioner Morris commented:

- Welcome everybody and it is good to see you.
- Thanks for your participation in local government.
- I would encourage people to give us feedback on issues that we are dealing with like what we just heard.
- There are lots of issues that we need feedback on and this will help to keep us from making mistakes.
- I appreciate you guys coming to do that tonight and encourage other people to pay close attention to what we are doing and communicate with us and give us feedback before we make critical decisions.

Commissioner Barneycastle commented:

- Thanks to everyone for being here and welcome to all of you.
- It has been another beautiful day.
- I would like to give a thanks to all the Mother's and hope they had a wonderful Mother's Day yesterday.
- It is good to see Ms. Quesenberry here.
- She has known me since I was a little boy and I have not seen her in years.
- It is great to see her.

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- Thanks to everyone for being here and thanks to those that are watching us on livestream.
- I welcome you to our meeting.
- I hope all of the Mom's had a wonderful Mother's Day yesterday.
- It is a special day.

Vice Chair Cox commented:

- I would like to echo what my fellow Commissioners have said.
- I want to wish everyone a belated Mother's Day.
- I know I enjoyed my Mother's Day even though I had to do some of the cooking.
- I appreciate everyone being here and your participation in county government.
- It is good to see you.

Chairman Nickelston commented:

- It is good to see everyone here and glad to have those watching online.

County Manager Oakley commented:

- Welcome to everyone here and I hope everyone is doing well.
- I hope all of the Mother's had a wonderful weekend.
- God bless everyone and thanks for being here.

CONSENT AGENDA

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

Minutes

Budget Amendments

Tax Office Items for Approval

Vice-Chairman Cox moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

INFORMATION AGENDA

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

Register of Deeds Quarterly Report

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to Register of Deeds Brandon Hooker.

Register of Deeds Brandon Hooker presented the Register of Deeds office quarterly report.

The Board expressed their thanks for the report.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

Senior Services Meals FY 21/22

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to Purchasing/Project Manager Glenda Pruitt.

Purchasing/Project Manager Glenda Pruitt presented information on bids received for Senior Services meals with a request to approve awarding the contract to Second Harvest Food Bank of NC.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

After some discussion and full consensus of the Board this item was moved to the Action Agenda for the next meeting.

Stokes County Greenbox Site Security Request

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to County Manager Oakley.

County Manager Oakley presented information on the request from the Stokes County Safety Committee on the Stokes County Greenbox Site Security request.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

After some discussion and full consensus of the Board this item was moved back to the Discussion Agenda at the next meeting with the option to move to the Action Agenda.

DSS Board Appointment Request

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver.

Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver presented information to the Board on a vacancy on the DSS Board and noted that a notice was posted for this vacancy with only one application being received from Ann Vance who DSS Director Stacey Elmes recommends for appointment.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall nominated Ann Vance and moved that the floor be closed for nominations.

Commissioner Barneycastle seconded.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no discussion the motion Passed with a 5-0 vote and this item was moved to the Action Agenda for the next meeting.

EMS Week Proclamation

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to County Manager Oakley.

County Manager Oakley presented the EMS Week Proclamation to the Board with a request for approval at tonight's meeting.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no discussion and full consensus of the Board this item was moved to the Action Agenda at the meeting tonight.

Legal Services Contract Renewal

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver.

Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver presented information to the Board on the Legal Services Contract for County Attorney Browder and noted that the only change was the request from County Attorney Browder to increase the retainer fee from \$6,000 per month to \$8,000 per month.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

After some discussion and full consensus of the Board this item was moved to the June 28th Regular Meeting to allow the Board time to discuss this during the Budget Work Sessions.

Broadband Expansion Discussion

Chairman Nickelston turned the floor over to Commissioner Morris.

Commissioner Morris presented information to the Board related to Broadband Expansion and the possibility of using the American Rescue Act Funds that are potentially coming to the county.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

After much discussion the Board was in agreement to discuss this further once the full details of the funding are made available.

ACTION AGENDA

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

Insurance Renewals for FY 2021-2022

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item as presented at the last meeting.

Commissioner Barneycastle moved to approve the NCACC Insurance Renewal for FY 21-22.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

EMS Week Proclamation

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item as presented at the meeting tonight.

Vice-Chairman Cox moved to approve the EMS Week Proclamation.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to enter Closed Session for the following rationale:

To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)

To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6)

Commissioner Barneycastle moved to enter Closed Session at 6:51 pm.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Adjournment

The Board re-entered the open portion of the meeting at 7:50 and with no further business to come before the Board Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to adjourn at 7:51 pm.

Vice-Chairman Cox seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Shannon Shaver
Clerk to the Board

Andy Nickelston
Chairman