STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA ) OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF STOKES ) STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA MONDAY MARCH 9, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Stokes County Administration Building in the Commissioners Chamber located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday March 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Board of Commissioners Present: Chairman Andy Nickelston, Vice Chairman Ronnie Mendenhall, Commissioner Rick Morris, Commissioner Jimmy Walker, and Commissioner Jamie Yontz

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Commissioner Walker 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 Yontz moved to to approve the agenda as presented.

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

COMMENTS - Managers/Commissioners

Commissioner Morris welcomed those in attendance and noted that he would not be holding his regular office hours tomorrow but that if anyone would like to contact him to please do so.

Commissioner Walker welcomed those in attendance and noted that he hoped everyone in attendance would find their time well spent.

Commissioner Yontz welcomed those in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Vice Chairman Mendenhall welcomed those in attendance and noted that he would like to express his gratitude to everyone in Stokes County who exercised one of our greatest freedoms which is the right to vote, which is something that not everyone has the opportunity to do.
Chairman Nickelston welcomed those including his parents to the meeting tonight.

County Manager Oakley welcomed those in attendance to the meeting tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for Public Comments at 6:07 pm.

The following individuals spoke during public comments:

Ron Simmons
1300 John Hill Road
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

RE: Wellness Center
- I am for the Wellness Center.
- I wanted to take the time to speak on this.
- I thought there was going to be a swimming pool and was not sure of all the details.
- I still think it would be a nice thing for this part of the county being that it is in the center of the county.

Ellen Peric
1095 Wheeler Smith Rd.
Lawsonville, NC 27022

RE: Arts Update
- **In the Apple Gallery – March 2020 – Bruce Burgess and Anne-Gaillard Duddy**
  The exhibit will feature Duddy’s work with porcelain clay and paintings by Burgess. Duddy hails from Charleston, South Carolina, and her work continues to be influenced by the marine life and beaches she grew up surrounded by, where she found her passion for creating art from clay. “Being able to learn and pursue ceramics as a profession has been such a blessing of the Lord,” Anne said. Duddy graduated from Winthrop University in 2006 with a BFA in ceramics and later earned her MFA in ceramics from Radford University in 2012. When she is not working with clay, she enjoys baking, traveling, and spending time with her daughters.
  Working in a different medium, Bruce Burgess brings a painting to life by capturing the feelings of an experience and sharing them with others. Bruce works with multiple mediums, but primarily with oil and acrylic paints, watercolor, charcoal, graphite and pen. Burgess was trained in illustration and communication art and design at Virginia Commonwealth University. His work “spans from fine art realism to visionary painting, large scale murals, and illustrative commissions.” Many of his current paintings and drawings are created “en plein air,” or rendered from life.
  An opening reception and artist meet and greet with Duddy and Burgess was held at the Apple Gallery, on March 6th.
- **EmiSunshine and the Rain – Thursday March 12 - 7 pm**
  Stokes Arts welcomes EmiSunshine and The Rain to The Arts Place. Rolling Stone once named 15-year-old EmiSunshine among 10 new country artists you need to know. There is
no better way to get to know this young singer/songwriter than hearing her live with her full band performing songs from her new album Family Wars. Family Wars is EmiSunshine and The Rains most personal project to date. With ten songs and one bonus track, the album addresses domestic violence, dysfunctional families, political corruption, mass murder, lost love, and freedom, those who have it, and those who seek it. The album is about working through different types of conflicts, Emi says. I'm just voicing my opinion about what I see going on in the world, but hopefully in a way that won’t offend. I'm looking at problems and trying to make something beautiful out of them. Emi has been attracting national attention since the age of nine, with appearances on The Today Show, NBC's Little Big Shots, Pickler & Ben, the Grand Ole Opry and elsewhere. In 2018, she was featured in the Grammy-nominated Elvis Presley documentary film The King, alongside Rosanne Cash, Emmylou Harris, Ashton Kutcher, Alec Baldwin and other stars. Tickets are $25 General Admission, $20 SCAC Members & Seniors 65+, $10 Eighteen and Under

- Kudzu Basket Class – Saturday March 14th 1pm –Instructor Pam Buchanan
Spring is right around the corner. Come and make a Garden Basket to celebrate the return of warm weather. In the three hour class you will create a unique one of a kind random weave Garden basket made with kudzu and other natural materials. Prior basket experience not necessary, moderate hand strength and a good pair of clippers are needed. Registration Fee: $50 - includes kudzu and other weaving materials. You will leave class with a completed basket. Feel free to bring any items or other natural materials you would like to add to your basket. Space is limited to 12 students so register early! NOTE: Please bring a pair of sharp hand clippers. Be sure to dress comfortably.

- Winter Dessert Theatre – March 21st 7 pm and March 22nd 3pm “The Distance Between Us”
A play told in letters written between a Quaker mother who has moved to Ohio, and her daughter who has remained in Southern Virginia. The story is a turbulent, yet tender love story with a powerful theme: forgiveness. It stars Terri Ingalls – a longtime leading lady of local theatre – as the mother Charity; and poet / actress Juliana Caldwell as Maiden, her daughter. The play was written by Frank Levering as a tribute to his Quaker heritage and in memory of his courageous Quaker parents, Miriam and Sam Levering. $10 General Admission, $7 SCAC Members & Seniors, $5 Eighteen and Under.

School Happenings:
This week, two more schools will enjoy UNCG’s drama presentation of “Tales of the Arabian Nights”.

With no other individuals signed up to speak Chairman Nickelston closed the floor for public comments at 6:12 pm.

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

Commissioner Morris moved to to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Vice-Chairman Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

INFORMATION AGENDA

Chairman Nickelston noted that there were no items on the Information Agenda.

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.

Tax Administration Monthly Report

County Manager Jake Oakley presented the Tax Administration Monthly Report with a request for the following items to be placed on the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

1. Real and Personal Releases more than $100.00.
2. Real and Personal Refunds more than $100.00.
3. Present-Use Value Late Applications.

With full consensus of the Board the items requested were placed on the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

Generator Replacement

Support Services Supervisor Glenda Pruitt presented a request to the Board for the replacement proposal for a standby generator located at Sauratown Mountain for the E911 VHF Paging system and addendum to current lease agreement with Mr. Harold Day. The addendum was drafted by County Attorney Browder. Budget Amendment # 84 is included. Mr. Day will be providing half of the funding for the generator. Support Services Supervisor Glenda Pruitt requested that this item be moved to the Action Agenda at this meeting.

Vice-Chairman Mendenhall moved to place this item on the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

YVEDDI Appointment Request

County Manager Jake Oakley presented a request from YVEDDI to re-appoint Commissioner Yontz to the YVEDDI Board.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Mendenhall moved to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Walker seconded.

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

With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously and this item was placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting.
Stokes County Aging Planning Committee Appointment Request

County Manager Jake Oakley presented a request from the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee for the appointment of Dean Gordon.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Walker moved to close the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Mendenhall seconded.

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

With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously and this item was placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

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.

Charters of Freedom

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented.
Commissioner Morris moved to to approve the location beside the Reagan Building for the Charters of Freedom monument site.

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

Policy for Fire Service District and Fire Commission and Use of Service District Funds

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented.
Commissioner Morris moved to to approve the Policy for Fire Service District and Fire Commission and Use of Service District Funds as presented with the new amendments.

Commissioner Yontz seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Proposal for MOE Funds 2020-2021

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented.
Commissioner Walker moved to to approve the MOE Funds presented for 2020-2121.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Social Work Month Proclamation

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented.
Vice-Chairman Mendenhall moved to to approve the Social Work Month Proclamation.
Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

**Creek Week Resolution**

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented. Commissioner Yontz moved to approve the Creek Week Resolution.

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

**Generator Replacement**

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented. Commissioner Yontz moved to approve the generator replacement proposal with the addendum to the lease and budget amendment #84.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Closed Session**

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to enter Closed Session.

Vice Chairman Mendenhall moved 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 to GS 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 Yontz seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

The Board re-entered the Open Session of the Regular Meeting.

**Correctional Behavioral Health Contract**

Vice-Chairman Mendenhall moved to approve the Correctional Behavioral Health Contract to provide service to the jail with budget amendment #84 and to authorize the County Manager to sign the contract.

Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

**Adjournment**
With no further business to come before the Board Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairman Mendenhall moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm.

Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

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Shannon Shaver                        Andy Nickelston
Clerk to the Board                    Chairman