

Regular Session, October 2, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Appointments

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Presentation

Overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Adopted by WPCOG 326 10/02/17

Proclamation

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WPCOG

Overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Adopted by WPOG 326 10/02/17

The Catawba County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 2, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room of the 1924 Courthouse, 30 North College Avenue, Newton, North Carolina.

Present were Chair Randy Isenhower, Vice-Chair Barbara G. Beatty and Commissioners Katherine W. Barnes, Sherry E. Butler and Dan A. Hunsucker.

Also present were County Manager Mick Berry, Assistant County Managers Dewey Harris and Mary Furtado, County Attorney Debra Bechtel, Assistant County Attorney Jodi Stewart and County Clerk Barbara Morris.

1. Chair Randy Isenhower called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., noting a quorum was present.
2. Commissioner Dan A. Hunsucker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Vice-Chair Barbara G. Beatty offered the invocation.
4. Commissioner Katherine W. Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board's Regular Meeting of September 18, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Recognition of Special Guests: Chair Isenhower welcomed everyone present.
6. Public Comments. None.
7. Presentations:

a. The Board issued a proclamation declaring October 8-14, 2017 as Fire Prevention Week and urged citizens to develop a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practice that plan twice a year.

b. The Board received an overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) adopted by the Western Piedmont Council of Governments. The CEDS provides a regional framework to identify economic opportunities, challenges and goals.

8. Appointments.

Upon the recommendation of Commissioner Katherine W. Barnes, the Board reappointed Rodney Miller for a sixth term and Philip Moore for a second term on the Region E Development Corporation. These terms will expire September 30, 2020. This recommendation came in the form of a motion, which carried unanimously.

9. Consent Agenda.

County Manager Mick Berry presented the following items for Board consideration:

a. A request for the Board to appropriate existing fund balance in the amount of \$48,073 to Conover Fire Department for the complete restoration of the existing steel roof at Station #1. This Station has an existing standing seam steel roof that has been in place since the building was built in 1995. Over time the roof has developed rust spots which have begun leaking. Due to these circumstances, Conover Fire Department requested fund balance to repair the damaged roof.

Conover contacted two qualified vendors to provide quotes. The lowest estimate to complete the work was approximately \$41,000 from Waynco of Matthews, NC. Conover requested this amount plus an additional 15% to cover unforeseen costs not included in the quote. The process that will be utilized to repair the roof has a 10-year warranty. An alternative would be to completely replace the roof. The cost to completely replace the roof would be in excess of \$140,000 and would include a 10-year warranty. However, the roof can be restored utilizing the proposed three step coating process. The decision to repair the roof rather than replace the entire roof was made because the amount of damage does not warrant total replacement at this time, and repairing the roof is more cost effective

Historically, each department has their own fund balance which is carried from year to year unless the department makes a request to appropriate it. The fund balance is created when tax revenue collections exceed the projections established by the Budget Department prior to each fiscal year. Conover Fire Department traditionally requests, and has been granted, all funds collected from their rural fire district be held for purchases of apparatus and capital equipment acquisitions. In the current Fiscal Year Conover Fire Department's projected budget was \$93,974, with a request of \$42,601 in fund balance to purchase equipment, for a total approved budget of \$136,575. Conover rural fire district has a rate of \$0.09. Fire departments have been allowed to utilize ninety percent of existing fund balance to address major projects such as buildings, building additions, truck replacement and other non-recurring needs such as equipment items. Ten percent of each department's fund balance is held for unforeseen expenditures during the budget year. Conover Fire Department has an available fund balance of approximately \$330,092. balance.

At the request of Commissioner Butler, staff verified the warranty for a new roof would be ten years. The following appropriations apply:

<u>Appropriation of Existing Fund Balance</u>	<u>Expense</u>
355-260010-690100 \$48,073	355-260010-849010 \$48,073
Fund Balance	Fire Protection

b. A request for the Board to approve an amendment to the K-64 Education Board Bylaws regarding the frequency of meetings as set forth in Section 3.1. Regular Meetings. At its January 17, 2017 meeting, the Board of Commissioners adopted bylaws for the creation of an operating board of K-64. The K-64 Education Board had its first meeting on May 30, 2017, and thereafter has met monthly, which was consistent with the adopted bylaws. The K-64 Board determined that with the establishment of the

Technology, Workforce Solutions, Marketing and Character Development Subcommittees of the Board, monthly meetings of the full Board will not be required beyond December 2017.

Therefore, the K-64 Board requested the Board of Commissioners approve the following change to Article III, Meetings, of the K-64 bylaws. Amendment: Commencing with the first month following the members' appointments, the Board shall meet once per month for 9 months. Thereafter, the Board shall meet every two months. Meetings shall be at a time and location decided upon by the Board Members.

Chair Isenhower asked if any commissioner wished for an item to be broken out of the consent agenda for individual consideration. None was requested. Chair Isenhower made a motion to approve the consent agenda; the motion carried unanimously.

10. Other Items of Business: None.

11. Manager's Report: None.

12. Attorneys' Report.

a. County Attorney Debra Bechtel reported on the resolution of a lawsuit – Catawba County, et al. v. Jason Loggins, 152PA16. The North Carolina Supreme Court ruled in favor of Catawba County. The case is concluded.

b. County Attorney Debra Bechtel requested the Board consider moving into Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and (a)(4) 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 acknowledged and to establish, and to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public bod, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations. Attorney Bechtel did not anticipate any action to be taken upon return to Open Session. Commissioner Barnes the motion to go into Closed Session at 10:05 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

12. The Board returned to open session; no action was taken. Commissioner Butler made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Randy Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Barbara E. Morris
County Clerk