

MITCHELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES

SPECIAL SESSION

MAY 22, 2007

NORTH CAROLINA

MITCHELL COUNTY

The Mitchell County Board of Commissioners met in special session on May 22, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Conference Room, Administration Building, Bakersville, NC. Those present for the meeting were Phil Byrd, Chairman; Lisa Sparks, Vice-Chairman; Mike Hensley, Member; Patrick Phillips, Member; Jim Saylor, Member; Phil Castro, Interim County Manager and Kathy Young, Clerk to the Board. Also present were Hal Harrison, County Attorney; Mavis Parsley, Finance Officer; Dr. Brock Womble, Danny Young, Scotty Jenkins, Rick Spurling, Dean Meyers and Jennifer Sparks.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **INVOCATION** – Commissioner Saylor gave the invocation.
3. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION** – Interim County Manager Castro discussed a letter from the State Auditor concerning the money received from the dissolution of Blue Ridge Mental Health.

Finance Officer Parsley informed the Board of the following changes in the budget since the first draft.

Revenues

- Increase in sales tax revenues after the May 15th sales tax report
- Increase in the Sheriff's Department revenues due to some grant application approvals

Expenses

- Local Government Retirement increased slightly from, 4.92% to 4.93% and 4.78% to 4.86% for law enforcement members
- Decrease in Medical Insurance
- Increases in Property Insurance and Worker's Comp Insurance
- Reduced expensed in building maintenance by delaying the roof replacement of the Administration Building if possible for another year.
- Removed funding for the EnergyXChange
- Reduced operational cost in Communications and Social Services Departments

Dr. Womble addressed the technology needs of the schools with the Board.

Commissioner Sparks moved to allow the Board of Education to move \$150,000 to technology. Commissioner Hensley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Dr. Womble discussed the needs at all of the schools with the Board. He informed the Board that while he was in Hyde County he was able to qualify

for a Qualified Zone Academy Bond. Dr. Womble discussed the possibility of Mitchell County applying for QZAB.

Commissioner Saylor moved to allow the Board of Education to apply for Qualified Zone Academy Bond. Commissioner Hensley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sparks moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of A Finance Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20 (a copy is hereby attached and becomes a part of the minutes). Commissioner Hensley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Dr. Womble discussed the possibility of getting an additional \$365,000 to the proposed three percent increase in funding for the Board of Education in order to retain the needed number of teachers.

Commissioner Hensley moved to give the Board of Education \$1,000,000 in capital outlay in June 2007 and to give them a \$50,000 as a special allocation in July 2007. Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion was held concerning the IT department. Commissioner Sparks moved to dissolve the IT Department and to contract out the computer services as needed. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and it carried three to two. Commissioners Hensley and Saylor opposed the motion.

Discussion was held on the group health insurance. Commissioner Hensley moved to move to Blue Cross Blue Shield with a \$1,000 deductible. Commissioner Sparks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. **ADJOURNMENT** – Commissioner Hensley moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MITCHELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Phil Byrd, Chairman

Lisa Sparks, Vice-Chairman

Mike Hensley, Member

Patrick Phillips, Member

Jim Saylor, Member

ATTEST:

Kathy Young, Clerk to the Board