

Minutes
Richmond County Board of Commissioners
105 W Franklin Street, Courtroom C, Rockingham, NC
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, February 04, 2020 5:30PM

The Richmond County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. with the following present: Chairman Kenneth R. Robinette; Vice-Chairman John B. Garner; Commissioners Don M. Bryant, Jimmy L. Capps, Ben T. Moss, Jr., Tavares Bostic and Rick Watkins.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robinette at 5:30 P.M.

ITEM NO. 1 Invocation by Reverend Jack Lee

Invocation was given by Reverend Jack Lee of First Baptist Church, Rockingham, NC

ITEM NO. 2 Approval of Agenda - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Capps, seconded by Commissioner Moss and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

ITEM NO. 3 Open Forum for Public Comments - 5:30 - 6:00 PM

No one signed up to speak

ITEM NO. 4 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of the Second Amendment Sanctuary Resolution - Ben Moss, Commissioner - Decision

Commissioner Moss made a motion for a vote on the approval of the Second Amendment Sanctuary Resolution. Commissioner Capps seconded the motion. Chairman Robinette asked for a show of hands for clarity on the vote. Motion passed with a 5 to 2 vote.

ITEM NO. 5 Request for Board Consideration of Approval to Move March and April Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting Dates - Bryan Land County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Capps and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

ITEM NO. 6 Update on Richmond County Animal Shelter - Bryan Land, County Manager - Discussion

Our staff has been extremely busy over the last few months working on implementing improvements at the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture and Dr. Patricia Norris.

Our shelter director, Bonnie Wilde, myself, Jimmy Quick and Tony Sweatt our Building Maint. superintendent have made multiple visits to surrounding County shelters and have had numerous meetings with other area directors and sheriffs. We have gathered some very good information from these site visits and plan to utilizing many of their ideas, policies, procedures etc that they have put in place.

The first phase of the flooring resurfacing project has been completed by our contractor Surface Concepts at a cost of \$36,855. Phase two of the project which will finish the remaining runs is slated to begin on February 17th and be completed by February 21st. Phase 2 comes with a price tag of \$21,045. Phase 2 of the project will not affect hours of operation of the shelter, we will remain open for normal operating hours.

Our maintenance crews have installed additional gravel in the outside runs and installed new sun shades on the outside runs as well.

Jimmy Quick and his IT staff have received surveillance cameras for the facility and plan on starting installation within the next two weeks. Jimmy has also outfitted our staff with two way radios for an additional layer of employee safety. Additionally, uniforms shirts and lab coats have been ordered for the staff .

Commissioner Moss and I had a very productive meeting yesterday with the ladies from the Humane Society. They are pleased with the improvements they have witnessed at the shelter over the last few months. Everyone has pledged to continue to grow our working relationship for the common goal of continuing to increase our adoption numbers and decrease our euthanasia rates.

Within the next two weeks I am planning a staff review meeting with all of our team to go over our findings from various site visits over the last two months. After this meeting, I plan on coming before the board with final recommendations for updated policies and procedures.

ITEM NO. 7 Monthly Report by County Manager Bryan Land

As a reminder, our Old Cheraw Waterline went active for residents on November 21, 2019 and this date started the 90 day countdown for our reduced tap fee. February 19th is the last day for residents to take advantage of the \$500 discount. A final 30 day notice was sent out on January 13th. There will be no time extension for this \$500 discount. To receive this discount payment must be received in full by 4:30pm on February 19, 2020.

Our Anson County pump station project is nearing groundbreaking, a notice to proceed was issued on February 1st with a substantial completion date of August 28, 2020. Construction is anticipated to begin in the next two weeks.

Later on the agenda Jerry Austin, Public Works Director will be asking for Commissioner approval on our new water purchase contract with Anson County. Our previous contract that we have been operating under was almost 42 years old. It was executed in 1978.

The standpipe recoating project is wrapping up and the tank is being refilled today. The required bacteriological test have been sampled. Pending acceptable sample results, we are scheduled to have the tank back online this Thursday, February 6th.

Our solid waste report is as follows: we picked up 317 bags for a total of approximately 3.5 tons. Additionally, 10 tires were removed; we cleaned up 20 different roadways with Richmond County Staff and DOT forces. Our Solid Waste Enforcement Officer investigated 2 illegal dump sites and issued 3 citation or notices. I continue to urge citizens to join in against the fight of the litter epidemic.

The clearing and fencing project at the airport is progressing well, the new 8' fence is currently being installed. Crews have approximately 2000' of fence already installed. The project will be completed by the end of February. The cost is \$279,125 with S & L Contracting out of Anson County. 90% grant funded with only a 10% county match required.

Transitioning to our shell building project -Work has ramped up significantly over the past two weeks at shell building #5. Sewage lines have been installed, the boring of industrial drive and pipe installation up to the right of way has been completed. The loading dock retaining wall has been poured. Rebar and concrete work will begin later this week for the roadway portion of the loading docks. Phoenix Fire is continuing to work on installation of the fire protection system and there is an anticipated completion date of February 10th for the fire suppression system. The interior office work should be completed within ten days, We are still targeting an early March occupancy date for the facility.

I am pleased to announce that in mid march we will start a project at the East Rockingham Park to upgrade our pool filtration system, this is the first major upgrade the pool pumps have seen in 30 years. Dufffield Aquatics out of Anderson, SC will mobilize for the project and it is scheduled to take approximately 30 days to complete. Cost is \$88,000

Final net proceed numbers came in from our surplus vehicle auction came in last week. It was a great success! We were able to net \$67,082 from the sale. It's important to remember, in years past we were lucky to net \$5,000 from our surplus sales. With utilizing Gov Deals and Ironhorse Auction we have been very fortunate with our returns.

Budget season is nearing, I am starting to have monthly meetings with our insurance providers to start reviewing renewals and potential premium increases. Additionally, I will be meeting individually with department heads for one on one sessions over the next 45-60 days. Budget work books will be sent out from our finance department starting on March 2nd.

I did want to mention a few highlights that occurred over the last two weeks. Two of our department heads were in the State and Federal spotlight. Our Health Director Tommy Jarrell was named Health Director of the year for the entire state of North Carolina, this is an awesome achievement. Additionally, Sheriff Clemmons was named a commissioner on the Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice by Attorney General William Barr. We should be extremely proud of both of these individuals.

In addition Congressman Dan Bishop was in town as well last month, we were able to spend some quality time with the Congressman and he was able to tour our American Woodmark Facility in our Highway 74 Industrial Park.

One final reminder, our annual hazardous household waste day is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th from 9 am to 1pm in the Richmond County Health Department Parking lot. At this time, items that typically aren't accepted at our landfill and boxesites will be collected, those items include: paints, solvents, cleaners, drain openers, acids, batteries, propane cylinders, pool chemicals, light tubes and ballast.

ITEM NO. 8 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments - Tracy Parris, Planning Director- Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Garner and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

ITEM NO. 9 Bi-Monthly Report - Martie Butler, Management Analyst/Economic Developer - Discussion

Sandhills Hiring Event- 43 interviews - 1 offered a job on site and 26 were asked to continue the interview process with a site tour. Emphasize Quality not Quantity
Vulcan which announced their plans earlier in the year have been moving forward with their community feedback event. They had a meeting with local officials, too.
Attended the EDPNC board meeting with Governor Cooper
VBC are staffed with 115 employees and are contemplating a second shift.
For 2019

Economic Development Marketing Activity - 34 existing industry visits; 10 visits to EDPNC and NCCOMMERCE events; 3 site selector mission and industry trade shows and 2 economic development networking events

2019 Annual Project & Grant Analysis

185 jobs announced; \$300 million investment announced; \$2.36 million NC Grants acquired for Richmond County companies and \$353,000 funding acquired for RCC

2019 Lead Analysis total of 47 leads - 36 RFI from EDPNC; 6 Commercial Broker; 3 existing industry visits and 2 site selectors trade-show visits

ITEM NO.10 Presentation of 2019 Golden A Recipients of Richmond County - Dr. Tommy Jarrell, Director, Health & Human Services - Discussion

The Richmond County Health and Human Services Director presented the establishments to be recognized as the 2019 Golden A recipients by the Richmond County Board of Commissioners/Board of Health

Restaurants 30

School Lunch Rooms 15

Food Stands 14

Meat Market 4

A full list can be found on the Richmond County Health Department website.

ITEM NO.11 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of Water Purchase Contractor Between Richmond and Anson Counties -Jerry Austin, Director, Public Works - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Bryant and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

ITEM NO.12 Consent Agenda - Decision

A) Approval of Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 7, 2020 As Submitted By The Clerk for Review

B) Approval of Tax Releases And Tax Refunds for Month of December, 2019

C) Approval of North Carolina Vehicle Tax System Refund Report For The Month of December 2019

D) Approval of Budget Amendment for LIEAP

E) Approval of Budget Amendment for Crisis Intervention Program

F) Approval of Job Description for Health & Human Services Director

G) Approval of Budget Amendment for USDA/NCDACS Grants

By a motion of Commissioner Garner, seconded by Commissioner Moss and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

ITEM NO.13 Adjournment - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Garner and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by the Clerk

Dena R. Cook, NCCCC

Clerk to the Board

Richmond County Board of Commissioners