

POLK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC HEARING &
REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 19, 2012 at 3:00pm
DSS Meeting Room, Howard B. Greene Building
Mill Spring, NC

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Gasperson, Vice-Chair McDermott, Commissioner Owens, Commissioner Pack and Commissioner Walker. Also in attendance were County Manager Whitson, County Attorney Egan, Clerk to the Board Fehrmann, staff, media and citizens.

1. Call to Order of the 2011 Community Development Block Grant, Scattered Site Housing Application Public Hearing - The purpose of the hearing was to receive comments from the residents regarding the County approving the submittal of a 2011 Community Development Block Grant, Scattered Site Housing application to the NC Department of Commerce. Specifically, the County anticipates the award of \$400,000 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate approximately 4 units, and to address urgent repair needs for approximately 8 units. The selected units have been evaluated and qualified as owner occupied low to moderate income citizens residing in Polk County. The County also plans to use these funds to pay for Administration Services and Service Delivery costs. Paula Kempton, IPDC Grant Administrator, was present to answer questions.
2. Citizen Comments – There were no comments.
3. Commissioner Comments – There were no comments.
4. Motion to Adjourn the Public Hearing – Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Call to Order of the Regular Board of Commissioners' Meeting – Chair Gasperson called the meeting to order.
6. Invocation – Chair Gasperson gave the invocation.
7. Pledge of Allegiance – Vice-Chair McDermott led the pledge.
8. Approval of Minutes – Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the March 5, 2012, public hearings and regular meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
9. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Walker moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
10. NC State Lottery Fund: Public School Capital Building Fund Application – School Superintendent Bill Miller presented the application. The money (\$96,000) will be used as payment on an existing QZAB loan on the completed addition at Tryon

- Elementary. Commissioner Pack moved to approve the Public School Capital Building Fund Application, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
11. Polk County Soil & Water Conservation & Ag Center Annual Reports – Dave Slater presented the Soil & Water Conservation annual report, and Patrick McLendon presented the Ag Center annual report. The annual reports are hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
 12. February Refund Request – Melissa Bowlin, Tax Collector, presented the request. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the February refund request, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
 13. Polk County Audit Proposals – County Manager Whitson and Sandra Hughes, Finance Director, presented the five proposals. Commissioner Pack moved to award Dixon Hughes the FY 2012 contract to audit in the amount of \$46,000, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
 14. Manager's Report – 1) Mr. Whitson announced he would be absent for the April 2, 2012, regular meeting, and the Board decided to hold the meeting as scheduled. 2) Mr. Whitson presented the Western Highlands Area Authority's Monitoring Report for FY 2012, 2nd Quarter. 3) Vehicle for Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Hill asked that this item be tabled until the April 16th meeting to give him time to look at his budget more closely. 4) Commissioner Owens made a motion to declare an EMS Ford E450 chassis surplus, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
 15. Volunteer Board for Vote – Burt Baer was appointed to the Appearance Commission by unanimous vote.
 16. Volunteer Boards for Review – Applications for the following boards were reviewed: Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - 1 application, 1 regular vacancy; Mill Spring Fire District Tax Commission – 3 applications, 3 regular vacancies; Saluda Fire District Tax Commission – 3 applications, 3 regular vacancies.
 17. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – Keith Holbert asked why the County could afford to pay the Senior Center loan off, but could not afford a new vehicle for the Sheriff's Department.
 18. Commissioner Comments – The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming out.
 19. Adjournment – Commissioner Walker moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS

Beth Fehrmann
Clerk to the Board

Ray Gasperson
Chair