

POLK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, April 16, 2012, at 3:00pm  
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building  
Columbus, 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> Community Development Block Grant Program Public Hearing – Chair Gasperson called the meeting to order. The purpose of this second hearing was to hear public comment and discuss funds available through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, especially the Small Business & Entrepreneurial Assistance (SBEA) Grant Program. CDBG and SBEA funds are provided to the State by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and are administered at the State level by the NC Department of Commerce through Community Investment & Assistance. Teresa Spires, Grant Services Manager, and Tom Calton, AllRail, Inc., were present to answer questions. Background information on the AllRail, Inc. project is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
2. Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments.
3. Commissioner Comments – There were no Commissioner comments.
4. 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 – Commissioner Pack gave the invocation.
7. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Owens led the pledge.
8. Approval of Minutes – Commissioner Walker moved to approve the April 2, 2012, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried 4-1 (Owens opposed). Commissioner Owens said that, while the minutes were accurate, he could not vote to approve the minutes of a meeting wherein an item (Resolution in Support of the North Carolina Marriage Amendment) properly placed on the agenda by a Commissioner was not respected by the Chair, and was removed by a majority vote. A copy of Commissioner Owens' full statement is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes. Vice-Chair McDermott said this is not the first time an item has been removed from a Polk County Board of Commissioners' agenda by majority vote; it was frequently done by past Boards.

- Vice-Chair McDermott also said she has heard from citizens that it was an improper use of the BOC meetings to even put the Resolution in Support of the North Carolina Marriage Amendment on the agenda. Commissioner Pack said other county and town boards have had this item on the agenda, and even Gov. Perdue has weighed in on the issue. Commissioner Owens reiterated that it was disrespectful of the Chair to allow the item to be taken off of the agenda.
9. Approval of Agenda – Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
  10. Community Development Block Grant Funding Resolution for the AllRail, Inc. Project – Commissioner Owens moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
  11. Hannon Hauling Centennial Anniversary Resolution – Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
  12. Polk County Schools Budget Request – School Superintendent Bill Miller presented the request for \$150,000.00 for FY 2012/13.
  13. Community Child Protection Team and Child Fatality Prevention Team Annual Reports – Lou Parton, Social Services Director, presented the Community Child Protection Team Report. Helen White, Child Fatality Prevention Team Chair, and Cathy Brooks, Community Child Protection Team Chair, presented the Child Fatality Prevention Team Annual report.
  14. Tax Collector March Refund Request – Commissioner Owens moved to approve the March refund request, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
  15. Request for Relief of Tax Penalties/Interest – John Bridgers, Tax Assessor, presented Mr. Dillion's request. Discussion ensued, and it was determined that the request did not meet the criteria for relief as set forth in N.C.G.S. 105-312 and N.C.G.S. 105-348. Vice-Chair McDermott moved to deny the relief request, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.
  16. Budget Amendments – Commissioner Owens moved to authorize the purchase of a 2013 Ford Taurus Police Interceptor, seconded by Commissioner Pack and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Pack moved to approve BA #6, PCTA/Sheriff/Jail, \$65,567 from fuel contingency, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Owens moved to approve BA #15, Library, \$5,199 to increase revenue and expense for a new server for the library to be paid with funds from the Library Gift & Memorial account, seconded by Commissioner Pack and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Pack moved to approve BA #65, Library, \$7,950 to transfer excess budget in utilities to cover the cost of repair of the RFID security gate, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

17. Manager's Report – 1) Commissioner Walker moved to declare a Sheriff's Department 2000 Crown Victoria surplus, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. 2) Commissioner Pack moved to retire a Sheriff's Department canine, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. 3) Commissioner Walker moved to approve a request to close the county offices at 4:00pm on May 2, 2012, for the annual employee meeting with the County Manager, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.
18. Volunteer Boards for Vote – Regina Burgess was appointed to the Mental Health Advisory Board by unanimous vote.
19. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – Sky Conard informed the Commissioners that she will be organizing an informational boat tour of Lake Adger in the near future and encouraged them to participate.
20. Commissioner Comments – The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming out.
21. Adjournment – Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD  
OF COMMISSIONERS

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Beth Fehrmann  
Clerk to the Board

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Ray Gasperson  
Chair