

POLK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC HEARING &  
REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 18, 2012, 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, Clerk to the Board Fehrmann, staff, media and citizens. County Attorney Egan was not in attendance.

1. Call to Order of the Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) Application Public Hearing – Chair Gasperson called the public hearing to order. The purpose of the hearing was to hear public comment regarding the ROAP application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than June 20, 2012. Jewell Carswell, Transportation Director, was present to answer questions.
2. Citizen Comments – There were none.
3. Commissioner Comments – Vice-Chair McDermott asked for and received clarification on Items “F” and “G” on page two of the application, as well as Item “H(1)” on page seven and Item “J” on page 8. A copy of the application is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
4. Motion to Adjourn the Public Hearing – Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott 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 – Commissioner Pack led the pledge.
8. Approval of Minutes – Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the June 4, 2012, budget work session and regular meeting minutes, and the June 11, 2012, budget work session minutes, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
9. Approval of Agenda – County Manager Whitson asked that Agenda Item #17a. – Fiber Optic Path to Saluda/Pangaea Internet Agreement, be added, and that Budget Amendment #17, Social Services, be added to Agenda Item #17.

Commissioner Owens moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Pack and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Rural Operation Assistance Program (ROAP) Application – Commissioner Pack moved to approve the ROAP application, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
11. Budget Discussion – Columbus Fire Chief Bobby Arledge asked the Board to approve the Columbus Fire Department's requested 1 cent Columbus fire tax rate increase, and not take the money out of fund balance. Chief Arledge said he did not believe it would be fair to take money out of the general fund, and that the 1 cent tax increase would ensure funds would be available in the future. Commissioner Pack said that while he supports the funding request, he does not want to burden the citizens with a tax increase, and believes the county has the money in fund balance to give to the Columbus and Mill Spring Fire Departments and the Polk County Rescue Squad. Commissioner Pack also said it is reasonable to take the money out of fund balance since the Columbus Fire Department offers mutual aid throughout the county. Vice-Chair McDermott said that while all county fire departments provide mutual aid, it is appropriate for each fire department to be self sufficient and to have sustainable incomes.
12. FY 2012/13 Polk County Annual Budget – A budget work session was held on June 4, 2012. The budget public hearing, advertised in the *Tryon Daily Bulletin* on May 23, 2012, was held on June 11, 2012. Commissioner Gasperson moved to approve the proposed FY 2012/13 budget, seconded by Vice Chair McDermott. Commissioner Pack moved to amend the motion to approve the proposed FY 2012/13 budget to cut county-wide taxes by 1 cent, to increase the Columbus fire tax rate by 1 cent, to increase the Mill Spring fire tax rate by 1 cent, to fund the Polk County Rescue Squad's request out of fund balance and, to offset this in the budget, to take \$200,000+ out of the fund balance for the capital expenditures, seconded by Commissioner Owens. The following section of the minutes are transcribed verbatim:

**Gasperson:** Okay, we have a motion and a second on the amendment. Is there any further discussion on this amendment? Yes?

**McDermott:** If I understand it correctly, and I can't say I'm certain that I do, it sounds like this is just another way to say let's use general county funds to support one or more fire districts, but not necessarily all. And, in any event, I still believe that the general fund should not be intermixed with the fire district funds. Not all of them have asked for additional money this year. And the Rescue Squad, we had a discussion with the head of Emergency Services here at I believe our last meeting, and said that the monies they were asking for to get the 12-lead EKG apparatus was not needed because no one in the rescue squad is qualified to use the 12-lead EKG apparatus under the State's protocols. Not local protocols particularly, but the State's protocols. And that, even if they had them in their trucks, there would be no way to radio or send the information to the emergency department of the hospital because the trucks aren't equipped that way. So there's no point in spending that

money at this time. So I don't see why money should be given that doesn't have a proper use.

**Pack:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to respond to that. You're misunderstanding my amendment. It's not going to take anything out of the general fund and give to the fire departments. It's only going to take the money out and then we'll give one cent tax increases to two fire departments only that asked for it. The general fund will come up with the money for the Rescue Squad. And, to further that, I talked to the captain of the Rescue Squad and he said that these 12-lead units were cell phone capable of transmitting the data, and it is his belief that Spartanburg Regional and Mission could accept that data and have the patients' information as far as the EKG before they got to the hospital. St. Luke's is not set up, that's what Sandra Halford said. She didn't say anything about Spartanburg or Mission.

**McDermott:** Well, given that you were going to make this amendment, I do wish that we could have asked Sandra Hughes (Halford) to be here to respond to that. Without having information from a neutral source, I really don't feel like we should go forward with that.

**Gasperson:** Is there any other Commissioner comments?

**Owens:** I think by doing it this way we relieve Chief Arledge of his fear of not being repeated, and plus the fact that we take care of our emergency people on the other end.

**Gasperson:** Well, Commissioner Walker, you have any comments. You okay?

**Walker:** I'm okay. Shoot, I've been working all over this 25% thing. I got my head all in that and now you're throwing all this out here. I, you know . . . a couple of things . . . look, when the fire, when the . . . every year when we do this, people come forward from the fire departments and Harmon Field if they saw a need to ask for more money, and they come and they ask. And sometimes we say yes and sometimes we say no. And it's hard to know, I mean, you know, it's a tough job up here to figure out what is, you know, what is the right thing to do. I mean, we are, essentially, the representatives of all the people in the county and we're . . . it's not our money. And we have to figure out what is the best way to allocate the money so that we protect the health, welfare and safety of the community. That is my job up here to do. So I felt very confident about Columbus' presentation. I went and saw a PowerPoint with them and everything made very good sense. I had concerns about Mill Spring - and we've gone over this ad nauseam - in that not everyone has got their financial statements where they need to be. They haven't done audits, and that's something that we all . . . it's good that we have these kind of things come up to us because we see that there's a lack there, and that needs to be addressed at some point. Not today, but at some point. So, that was good. I do not feel comfortable, being a steward of the people's money of this county, to give money where there hasn't been an accounting done to make sure everything is running smoothly there. Not that there's a question, it's just always a good idea. We know when we go to the bank personally as people to ask for a loan, we have to have "our i's dotted and our t's crossed". And I expect the same thing from people that come here to ask for your money. That's that. On the Rescue Squad, what they asked for the money for, right now they cannot use it in that way. We've gone over that and over that. So, I am not comfortable giving money for something

that cannot be used in the way that it was proposed. I have the thing right here. Another thing that was mentioned during the course of all this is that there might be ill will among the different departments. I don't believe that to be the case. I have copies of three letters of support for Columbus, so I don't believe that the fire departments will show ill will towards one another because of this. This is how it runs. So, know that when you come to use the people's money or to ask for a raise in the tax rate of the people's money, that we expect professionalism and accountability in all that we're doing. And I will not, as a Commissioner while I'm here, agree to give out money in any other way. About the 25%, I loved this, Commissioner Pack, and have spent a lot of time looking at this. Commissioner Pack proposed that we do a 25% increase to all departments for the fuel contingency. I liked it because it looked . . . at first glance and as I've . . . I've . . . I've written all over this thing. I have spent a lot of time. I take it seriously when one of these Commissioners offers something because it's . . . what all of us have to bring here is important. I like the idea because it's clean, it seems . . . it looks concise, it's very nice. The problem I have with it is that it's the first time that we've ever done something like that, and I'm not . . . I'm a little concerned about how we would meet the needs with everyone else. So, I started . . . that have higher percentages than what the 25% that you offered on here. And, I've done that math all kinds of ways and really what we end up with if we look at the whole percentage of it we can . . . we're at 16.77% with the way that the County Manager has it, which is less than what you suggested originally. But, we're saying we don't need that \$90,000 in that fuel contingency, you know, that this approach would cover anything in the future. I tried to find historical gas, you know, how much it's risen over time. It just goes like . . . it's very hard to do. I could not find that. You know, one thought I had - and I just want to throw this out here because we haven't voted on this budget yet - would be one way that we could attain what Commissioner Pack has suggested, which I do like but I think we could get there in a different way, is to . . . if we took the County Manager's numbers the way they are, and left it the way he's done it . . . and I don't . . . I'm not crazy about the idea of people having to come up to us every time. It does feel a little bit like micromanaging for them to have to come up to us every time because the County Manager has asked not to be involved in that, should we decide to go this route. But, one idea I had - and I can make it in the form of an amendment - I want to throw it out to you all right now is that I liked the 25% over all. If we went with the number that the County Manager used and we subtracted the 25% total on the final line, that ends up with a \$23,000 difference in what Commissioner Pack suggested and what the County Manager . . . we could put that \$23,000 in fuel contingency, then we would be at 25% for everything, and then the balance from that 90 go into regular contingency. That's just an idea that I wanted to throw out to you all.

**Gasperson:** Okay. I think first we have to deal with . . .

**Pack:** Mr. Chairman, I'd be willing to amend my motion to include that, if that's what the Commissioners want.

**Walker:** Well, maybe it wasn't the time to talk about that.

**Owens:** Could be amend, amend, amend.

**Gasperson:** Okay, let's . . . why don't we . . . we have a motion with an amendment with a second now. Okay, I think it's appropriate, perhaps, that we . . .

**Owens:** By the way, Mr. Chairman, before you go any farther and call for a vote, I like that idea of 1 cent cut in taxes. I just wanted to make that point.

**Walker:** You've said that in (inaudible).

**Gasperson:** Okay, but, let me say the reason I would have a problem, since I haven't spoken on this yet, on Commissioner Pack's amendment, is there's a couple of main, major concerns I have with that 1 cent tax cut. One is, starting in the 2013/14 fiscal year, which will be the next fiscal year - the fall of next year, or starting July 1<sup>st</sup> next year - we, again, I keep bringing this up, we are losing a half cent sales tax. It will go away. It's sunseting. We'll still be paying it when we go to the store, it's that Raleigh's just going to keep it. They're not going to send it to the counties. And, that's equal to \$300,000-\$400,000. Secondly, if we start tightening up on our budget to that point, and we start losing some \$260,000 in overall revenue, that's a pretty significant hit because . . . and we have it later on our agenda about another waterline extension. I'm a big proponent of main trunk waterlines and I certainly have great hopes that in the next couple or so years, if the finances work, that I'd love to see that waterline on up Hwy. 9 to Mill Spring. I think that's a critical link that will benefit citizens for decades to come. And, I don't want to start choking off the revenues that would perhaps make - and there's no guarantee - but perhaps would make that possible. We also are still concerned about school funding. It seems like it's an ongoing issue. Currently we hope the schools can live without an increase in the next fiscal year, but we don't know that right now. And so, when you combine all of that . . . and here we're also, after about three, three and a half years, we're finally giving a modest increase to our county employees. I don't want them to realize that we have to stop that. I don't know, there's no guarantees about the next fiscal year, but wouldn't it be nice if there's something modest again. So, for all those reasons I have huge concerns and, besides which, Polk Count certainly has a very reasonable property tax rate compared to other counties in the State. We're certainly . . . I think we've moved into the bottom 25 percentile. I hear of some counties having increases this year. So, if no other . . .

**Pack:** Mr. Chairman, that's one of the reasons that I, you know . . . the thing I look at is the taxpayer. We all know people in this county that are unemployed. There's a lot of people that are unemployed, having a hard time. We have county employees that have a hard time paying their taxes. We all know that. And that's the reason I'm trying to look at some way of offsetting this as long as we can without raising anyone's taxes. Whether it's, you know, paying for it out of general fund - which I understand the fire department doesn't necessarily agree with - or we cut. That's the reason I first came up with taking it out of general fund until we had to actually impose that tax increase, because it just alleviates that for a little while for the citizens. We have the money to be able to do that. If that's not, you know . . . the fire department doesn't want that, then I'm willing to look at it a different way. We can cut taxes and give it back to them so that the taxpayer really sees no change, but the fire department is guaranteed their monies with a tax increase. I'm just looking at different ways to try to make it happen without putting

a further burden on the taxpayer, which some of us can afford to pay it. Some of us are fortunate. There's a lot in this county that's not fortunate. We have to look after the people's monies and the people, what they can afford. Not just a few, but all the citizens.

**McDermott:** I think we all have great concerns for the various people of Polk County. A number of us, I believe, volunteer in agencies to help those who are less well off financially than others, and give to those agencies. And we have a lot of people in the county working to help those people. I serve on the Department of Social Services Board and a lot of efforts are made through that organization to help the people who are less fortunate or have certain times of need. But we still have to do what is right for the entire county looking forward into the future. Cutting back on revenues for the county now just would not be responsible. We need to keep building reserves. We have some reserves for the dam but DENR is talking about needing to have those improvements to the dam made sooner rather than later, and we may be called upon to fund several million dollars and work on the dam. Right now, after this coming fiscal year, we'll only have \$600,000 put away. There's a lot yet to be needed. We know that sometime in the future and the foreseeable future, we're going to want to build a water treatment plant to get water to the citizens of Polk County. We haven't set aside a dime for that, and the projections are it could cost as much as \$10 million dollars. We ought to be setting aside reserves for all these known and foreseeable capital expenses, capital costs in the future. We all look at the taxpayers, we all would like to lower taxes. But, with all the cut backs that the state has forced upon the counties in the last several years - with the additional cutback that Chairman Gasperson has mentioned that's going to take another \$300,000 or so out of our county revenues in the next year - it just doesn't allow for lowering the taxes at this point. It's not a responsible thing to do, even in light of the way it might help people in the county.

**Gasperson:** Okay . . .

**Pack:** Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to point out one more thing. This point was brought out at the last meeting. This county has brought in \$9.5 million dollars in excess revenues in the last six years. I'm not saying this revenue has been spent inappropriately. What I'm saying is we've had excess revenues, and that this Board and the prior Boards, we have found ways to spend that money. It's a matter of setting the priorities. And if we're really interested in setting monies aside for dams and all the other capital needs of this county, the money is there, it's a matter of priorities. And that's what it really comes down to is priorities.

**Gasperson:** Okay . . .

**McDermott:** I apologize, Mr. Chairman, but I do need to speak to that excess revenue. If it's excess revenues that go to pay off the county's debt, debt that was incurred by the county as far back as 1991, and other debts that were incurred in the years thereafter, then I guess that's excess revenue. But I don't understand the use of the term "excess" with revenues that are used to pay off county debt, or revenues that were used to build waterlines. I believe Commissioner Pack has been in favor of having a larger county water system and so that money has . . . some of that money has been used for that. I don't think that it's fair to call that excess revenue, and so I think we need to take that with a grain of salt and

understand that these are revenues that are necessary, these are revenues that were well spent, and they are revenues that added to the good government of Polk County.

**Pack:** Mr. Chairman, I'm going to respond to that because . . .

**Walker:** I'm going to call for the question in a minute.

**Gasperson:** Okay, okay, last response, please.

**Pack:** Thank you. The \$9.5 million is excess revenues. I'm not debating how it's been spent but, if you're getting into debt service, debt service is planned expenditures. We'd all like to pay off all of our debt. But, then again, it's setting priorities. That's what I'm saying. The priority was to pay off the debt service instead of putting monies away for the dam and other capital needs in the future. It's all about priorities. That's what I'm saying.

**Gasperson:** Okay, we've had full discussion here, and now let's take a vote on the amended motion. All those in favor of the amended motion . . . all opposed.

*The amended motion failed 2-3 (Gasperson, McDermott and Walker opposed).*

**Gasperson:** Okay, now we're back to the original motion, which is to accept the proposed budget ordinance as appears in our packet. You made mention, do you wish to further go on . . .

**Walker:** Well, I would like to put forward this idea of amending that so that 23 or 24 thousand of that \$90,000 fuel contingent . . . or what was in our fuel contingency, that that become, like, \$24,000, and the balance, which is \$66,000, go into our regular contingency.

**Gasperson:** So, you're proposing . . .

**Walker:** And then we're meeting, I mean, we're . . . we're getting to that 25% in a different kind of way.

**Gasperson:** Okay, so you're proposing that \$24,000 go into fuel contingency . . .

**Walker:** Yes.

**Gasperson:** . . . at what's currently designated as fuel contingency, and the \$68,000 . . .

**Walker:** \$66,000 will be the balance.

**Gasperson:** \$66,000, rather, \$66,000 remaining would be in regular contingency.

**Walker:** Yeah. What do we have in . . . ?

**Whitson:** She . . . she . . . I think she's wanting to amend the budget ordinance to change \$90,000 in fuel contingency to \$24,000 in fuel contingency, and to add \$66,000 to our regular contingency.

**Walker:** Yes, that's what I want to do.

**Gasperson:** Okay.

**McDermott:** Second.

**Gasperson:** Okay, we have a second on that. Okay, we have a motion and a second for the original motion, to accept the proposed ordinance as appears with this change, \$24,000 could go to fuel contingency, \$66,000 into regular contingency, what was previously \$90,000 all in fuel contingency. Is there any further discussion? If not, all in favor . . . all opposed.

*The motion carried 4-1 (Pack opposed).*

**Gasperson:** Okay, thank you.

**Walker:** I'm going to miss you guys.

**McDermott:** Well, you can come to the meetings.

**Gasperson:** All right . . .

**McDermott:** We'll see how many.

**Gasperson:** By the way, that vote went just the way I thought it would. Let's move on. Item 13 . . .

**Owens:** Excuse me. We need to make a motion about rate, don't we?

**McDermott:** About what? That's part of the budget, isn't it?

**Gasperson:** That's all part of it.

**Owens:** But you need to designate the 52 cents, right?

**Gasperson:** It's all part of the budget ordinance.

**Whitson:** It's part of the budget ordinance.

**McDermott:** It's in the . . . it's in the . . .

**Owens:** I thought we specified that. I might get my tax cut in there if y'all ain't careful.

**Gasperson:** Okay, Item 13, Summer Open House, Melissa Tambini . . .

**Owens:** Wait a minute, you ain't voted on the budget yet.

**Gasperson/McDermott/Walker (In Unison):** We just did.

**Pack:** That's what you voted on.

**Gasperson:** We just voted on it, Ted.

**Owens:** No, we voted on our amendment.

**Gasperson:** That was the whole budget, with the amendment.

**Walker:** As amended.

**Owens:** Well, I did not . . . I apologize, I missed that one. My age must be getting me, because I do not want to accept this budget without the other people involved in it.

**Gasperson:** Ted, we just voted. Sorry.

**Owens:** I'm sorry, too, because I misunderstood. I thought she was going to make an amendment, and I thought that's what Renée seconded. I apologize.

**Gasperson:** Okay.

**Owens:** Because I did not intend, without the other two – fire department and Rescue Squad – involved in this budget, I wasn't going to vote for it.

**Gasperson:** Okay, well, Clerk, could you make a note of Commissioner Owens' comments?

**Owens:** I apologize.

13. Summer Open House – Josh Schactman of Polk & Rutherford Family Preservation Services announced an open house jointly sponsored by Thermal Belt Outreach and FPS.
14. May Tax Collector Refund Request – Commissioner Owens moved to approve the May Tax Collector refund request, seconded by Commissioner Pack and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Hwy. 108 Polk/Columbus Interconnection Change Order #1 – County Manager Whitson said the change order for water taps in the amount of \$28,069 can be taken entirely out of fund balance, or \$6,000 of it can be taken out of the water enterprise fund.



Commissioner Walker moved to approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$28,069, with \$22,069 coming out of fund balance and \$6,000 coming out of the water enterprise fund, seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Owens moved to approve County Engineer Dave Odom sending letters to each homeowner who has not already tapped on to the current Hwy. 108 waterline extension to afford them the opportunity to do so, to approve making it county policy to send letters of this nature on all future waterline extension projects, and to approve extending the discounted \$1,200 tap fee for the current Hwy. 108 waterline extension for 60 days beginning on June 18, 2012, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Cooper Riis Waterline Extension - Hwy. 108 Polk/Columbus Interconnection Change Order #2 – County Manager Whitson said the change order is for laying 2,560 linear feet of 12” waterline up Hwy. 108 to approximately the middle of the Cooper Riis property. The Polk County Economic & Tourism Development Commission members unanimously approved this project at their May 30, 2012, regular meeting. Commissioner Walker asked whether non-profit organizations are addressed in the Polk County Waterline Extension Policy, and she was informed the policy does not include anything about non-profits specifically. County Manager Whitson said if the project is considered economic development, then it is at the discretion of the BOC to determine what, if any, amount of the waterline extension is paid for by the recipient. Mr. Whitson also said this would be a trunkline extension and, with a large customer at the end of the line, the county would not have to flush the line.

Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the Cooper Riis Waterline Extension - Hwy. 108 Polk/Columbus Interconnection Change Order #2, seconded by Chair Gasperson. Virgil Stucker, Executive Director and President of Cooper Riis, gave a brief overview of the facility, and said it will cost Cooper Riis \$107,000 to hook up to the waterline. Mr. Stucker estimated that the facility will use approximately 140,000 gallons of water per month. Mr. Stucker said Cooper Riis plans to decommission the wells and holding tanks currently in use once the waterlines are in place. Commissioner Pack recommended the County secure a contract with Cooper Riis wherein Cooper Riis agrees to use only water purchased from the county, with the exception of the irrigation pond currently in use, and Mr. Stucker concurred.

Commissioners Pack and Walker expressed their concern regarding the fact that the proposed Cooper Riis waterline extension includes taking the waterline approximately 1,000 feet onto the Cooper Riis property itself along the highway right-of-way. County Manager Whitson said taking the waterline further along the property will enable Cooper Riis to lower its fire insurance rates by bringing the fire hydrant closer to the facility’s buildings, and will also help with the facility’s future development needs. Commissioner Pack questioned using taxpayers’ money to save Cooper Riis money, and recommended possibly bringing the waterline only to the edge of their property.

Commissioner Walker said she would like for Cooper Riis to offer to share some of the cost of the waterline extension with the County. Chair Gasperson suggested removing the contested 1,000 feet from Change Order #2, passing the change order as amended, and reconsidering the additional 1,000 at the next BOC meeting. Vice-Chair McDermott said the Polk County Comprehensive Plan recommended main trunklines be installed up Hwy. 9 and Hwy. 108. Commissioner Pack asked County Manager Whitson to determine the rate on 140,000 gallons of water per month to determine the payback timetable. Vice-Chair McDermott said that, according to the Polk County Water Policy, with which she disagrees in some parts, and which was adopted by the board of commissioners prior to when she was elected to the board, capital costs for waterlines are not expected to be recouped through water sale revenues, but the capital costs are to be underwritten by the county; water customers are only to pay for the actual cost of the water itself.

Vice-Chair McDermott moved to amend her previous motion to approve the waterline being extended to Healing Farm Lane contingent upon the county being able to reach a simple contract with Cooper Riis that Cooper Riis will purchase their water needs - other than their irrigation from their pond - from the county once the waterline is in place, and that their current well system be shut down, and that the Board will revisit the extra 1,000 feet of line at a future meeting, seconded by Chair Gasperson.

Following discussion, the Board agreed to table this agenda item until the July 9, 2012, BOC meeting so that more information can be gathered and disseminated.

17. Budget Amendments – Commissioner Owens moved to approve BA #7, Jail/Sheriff, Fuel Contingency, \$24,433 (bringing the balance in fuel contingency to \$0), seconded by Vice-Chair McDermott and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Pack moved to approve BA #8, Sheriff, Appropriate Fund Balance, \$24,433, to appropriate fund balance to purchase a police vehicle for the Sheriff's Dept., seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Owens moved to approve BA #9, Solid Waste, Appropriate Fund Balance-Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, \$50,499, to appropriate fund balance for estimated overage, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously. Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve BA #111, Sheriff's Dept.-Unemployment Payments/Jail Safekeeping, \$25,020, to transfer excess budget from unemployment savings to cover the estimated maximum cost for female and safekeeping inmate costs to be paid to other entities, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Walker moved to approve BA #17, Social Services Addition, \$14,400, Special Adoption Funds received for the recruitment and training of adoptive parents.
- 17a. Fiber Optic Path to Saluda/Pangaea Service Agreement – This agreement was negotiated by Marche Pittman, IT Director, in order to secure fiber to Saluda at a cost of \$7,000 to the county. Vice-Chair McDermott moved to approve the Fiber Optic Path to Saluda service agreement between Polk County Government and e-Polk, Inc., dba Pangaea Internet, to include a six month period from the effective

date during which the county has the option to add a second strand of fiber at a cost of \$7,000, seconded by Commissioner Walker and the motion carried unanimously.

18. Manager's Report – 1) It was the consensus of the Board to hold the Bryant H. Womack portrait unveiling ceremony on July 4, 2012, at 12:00pm. 2) Commissioner Pack moved to approve the request by the Information Technologies Department to declare a number of items surplus, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously. A list of the surplus items is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
19. Volunteer Boards for Vote – Donna Radich was appointed to the Library Board of Trustees by unanimous vote.
20. Volunteer Boards for Review – Applications for the Appearance Commission and the Zoning Board of Adjustment were reviewed.
21. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – There were none.
22. Commissioner Comments – The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming out. Commissioner Owens apologized for misunderstanding Commissioner Walker's motion regarding the budget.
23. Adjournment – Commissioner Walker 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