

**THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** convened for a recessed meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2012 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the board room, Suite 209 of the Anson County Government Center.

Commissioners present: Anna H. Baucom, Chair  
Ross Streater, Vice Chair  
Bobby Sikes  
Dr. Jim Sims  
Vancine Sturdivant  
Jarvis Woodburn

Staff members present: Lawrence R. Gatewood, County Manager  
Bonnie M. Huntley, CMC, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board  
Rita James, Data Processing  
Robert Thomas, Finance Officer

Chairman Baucom called the recessed meeting to Order. Chairman Baucom stated that she expected Ronnie Bryant from the Charlotte Regional Partnership but felt it may take him a while to get out of Charlotte this time of day.

**Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:** Chairman Baucom noted this was a Public Hearing on the 2012-2013 recommended budget. Motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to approve the Agenda. Chairman Baucom called to their attention the proposed change to the Personnel Ordinance and that the Consent Agenda was a bucket full of Budget Amendments. Chairman Baucom noted a closed session on personnel. Commissioner Sims asked to share information with board members in closed session. Commissioner Sims stated that it was both personnel and legal. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing:**

**Fiscal year 2012-2013 Recommended Budget:** Motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, to open the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

In the Public Hearing. Chairman Baucom asked County Manager Gatewood how he would like to proceed and if he would like to present the budget. County Manager Gatewood stated that he would like to present the budget in a nutshell. County Manager Gatewood stated that as he opened the meeting a few weeks ago, he would again like to thank his immediate staff, Rita James, Cathy Baxter, Robert Thomas and Bonnie Huntley for the work they've put in to making this budget one that he is extremely proud to present to the board and to the citizens of Anson County. County Manager Gatewood stated that the budget was based on a flat property tax rate of 76.7 cents per hundred dollars valuation and the proposed budget of roughly 26.5 million

dollars is balanced, realistic and prepared according to state guidelines. County Manager Gatewood shared that it was also on a 92.68% tax collection rate. County Manager Gatewood noted there had been several discussions lately about our tax collection rate. County Manager Gatewood referred to counties in our population group in North Carolina with 25,000 to 50,000 population noting their tax collection rate was slightly over 95%. County Manager Gatewood stated that the state average was slightly over 97% and we have a handful of counties at 99% and we were one of the lowest in the State of North Carolina. County Manager Gatewood stated that we've been working diligently to improve our position. County Manager Gatewood shared that he made the board aware of a nice check received earlier this week totaling \$47,000 where back taxes were paid for several years all at one time. County Manager Gatewood stated that we were fully prepared to auction this property on the steps of the courthouse and the day before they paid their taxes. County Manager Gatewood stated we were serious and the community was beginning to hear that. Chairman Baucom added that the feedback she receives is they are so happy we are doing this. Commissioner Sims stated that he had heard a lot of feedback from the listing in the newspaper saying they were pleased but they want more. County Manager Gatewood shared that we want to move the 92.68 collection rate to 95 and hopes this can be done within the next eighteen to twenty-four months. Chairman Baucom referred to a report on the State Treasurer's website comparing our financial information for about a five year period and according to them in 2011 our uncollected tax on the 92% we collected amounted to almost one million dollars. County Manager Gatewood stated that before the recession hit, prior to 2008, our collection rate was around 95% so it's doable. Chairman Baucom voiced that she did not want to be the one throwing widows and orphans out of their homes with County Manager Gatewood answering nor did he. County Manager Gatewood reported hearing favorable feedback on the way the board and staff were managing things relative to back taxes this morning at an Anson County Economic Development Corporation meeting. County Manager Gatewood stated that we were also making a commitment to maintain a target of six million dollars in fund balance at any given time. County Manager Gatewood noted that next year at this time if it is significantly below that he's made a terrible error or something unforeseen happened. County Manager Gatewood stated that funding for education was a priority and his recommendation was to fund Anson County Schools to the exact amount they requested which is the same amount as last year and the year before. County Manager Gatewood noted that amount was \$3,775,880. County Manager Gatewood stated that for South Piedmont Community College he recommended \$794,149 that includes \$183,250 for capital projects. Commissioner Sturdivant asked if we had any information on teachers receiving the supplement with County Manager Gatewood answering there was a teacher's supplement that was started about five years ago. County Manager Gatewood noted this was the fifth year of the \$65,000 a year supplement and he did receive a report on how the funds have been used. County Manager Gatewood shared that primarily when a teacher passes performance evaluation they receive the teacher supplement. Chairman Baucom voiced that it was apparently a state instrument used for evaluation and it looks like between two hundred

forty and two hundred eighty four teachers received the supplement. Vice Chair Streater asked the number of teachers with Chairman Baucom stating there was a column for qualified teachers and there appears to be a few that evidently didn't make satisfactory on the test. Chairman Baucom read that in 2011-12 they had two hundred forty seven teachers and two hundred forty three were eligible for the supplement. Chairman Baucom noted they receive around \$200 a year. Chairman Baucom stated that when it started they said it would change after five years and go to general expense but she feels it should go for teacher supplements. County Manager Gatewood stated that he made that note and would certainly specify that amount for that purpose. County Manager Gatewood stated that we talked about a 2.5% COLA for all full time employees, full restoration of 401K contribution and he's made a special recommendation to add the Register of Deeds to that program and county paid health insurance with a special focus on wellness. County Manager Gatewood stated that as far as capital projects we hope to continue the courthouse renovations on the interior to the tune of \$250,000. County Manager Gatewood stated that he also included \$150,000 to renovate the façade at the Belk building. County Manager Gatewood shared that Parks and Recreation needed a maintenance and storage building and he included \$70,000 for that purpose. County Manager Gatewood noted that \$69,000 was added for contingencies and emergencies. Vice Chair Streater asked if the \$30,000 for the land was a onetime payment with County Manager Gatewood sharing that we've been working with Wade Manufacturing on an option to purchase the thirty-one acres of land. County Manager Gatewood noted the other item was the change to the Personnel Ordinance. County Manager Gatewood noted that the Register of Deeds had been excluded from the 401K contribution since the program started in the late 1990's. Chairman Baucom asked the rationale with County Manager Gatewood answering he did not know and had not found any documentation. Chairman Baucom asked if she had said anything with County Manager Gatewood stating that in the last three years she had brought it to his attention. Vice Chair Streater asked if the Sheriff was in it with County Manager Gatewood explaining that he was in a special program where they get 5%. County Manager Gatewood noted the 5% was for Sheriff and sworn law enforcement officers. Chairman Baucom asked if theirs came from court fees with County Manager Gatewood noting the county pays the 5%. Ms. James added that there were some funds that come from the court fees but the retirement percentage County Manager Gatewood was referring to was totally our expense. Ms. James shared that the Register of Deeds also had a special retirement and she thought that was the original intent in excluding the Register of Deeds because the Sheriff's Department was also excluded because they have their own. Commissioner Sturdivant asked if he was talking about 5% or entitled to 3% with County Manager Gatewood explaining that the Sheriff and sworn law enforcement officers were entitled by statute to 5%. County Manager Gatewood noted that he was proposing 3% for the Register of Deeds like all other employees. Vice Chair Streater asked if all Sheriff employees receive the 5% with County Manager Gatewood answering not all, it was only sworn law enforcement officers. Chairman Baucom asked if the Sheriff had staff that was not sworn with County Manager Gatewood answering administrative assistants. Vice Chair Streater

asked if we paid all of that or if the state paid some with County Manager Gatewood answering the county pays all and it was mandated by the state for every county. Ms. James noted this was the reason the supplemental insurance for regular employees came about in order to match this. Vice Chair Streater voiced that he was glad they got it but felt they should be responsible for the portion over what we give regular employees. Chairman Baucom noted this was an unfunded mandate. County Manager Gatewood requested two motions, one to approve the tax rate for 2012-2013 and approval of the change to the Personnel Ordinance. Chairman Baucom called for comments from the public. Hearing none, motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to closed the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to accept the employment benefit personnel change. Motion carried unanimously.

Anson County Personnel Ordinance  
Article IX. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Section 4. Retirement Benefits

All regular, full time employees, not including the Register of Deeds and the Sheriff and respective Sheriff's Department Employees shall be entitled to a 3% supplemental retirement contribution from the County towards a retirement plan chosen by the employee. The eligibility of this benefit shall be based upon the employee's qualification for membership in the retirement system. The 401(k) Plan shall be designated as the default plan if an employee fails to make an election when said employee is eligible for the 3% employer contributions.

**Recommended Change, effective July 2012**

Section 4. Retirement Benefits

All regular, full time employees, not including the Sheriff and respective law enforcement officers, shall be entitled to a 3% supplemental retirement contribution from the County towards a retirement plan chosen by the employee. The eligibility of this benefit shall be based upon the employee's qualification for membership in the retirement system. The 401(k) Plan shall be designated as the default plan if an employee fails to make an election when said employee is eligible for these employer contributions.

Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to adopt the recommended tax rate of 76.7. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Tax Releases:**

Property Tax Releases/Refunds/Adjustments							
				06/21/12			
			\$	-			
					Real Taxes	Refund	
			\$	-			
20160	Allen, Johnny	2012	88.30	1204-000023	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Situs
20161	Allen, Johnny	2012	2.61	1205-000036	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Situs
21967	Hightower, Franklin	2012	90.81	1205-000924	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21964	Little, Bobby	2012	11.34	1205-001304	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
19328	Maness, Jason	2011	28.53	1111-001086	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21966	Melendez, Maria	2011	45.84	1204-001541	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21961	Murray, Ricardo	2009	25.16	0912-001145	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21962	Murray, Ricardo	2009	32.08	0910-001458	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21965	Thomas, James	2012	72.88	1205-002247	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
21963	Watkins, Elizabeth	2010	31.32	1104-002303	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
19326	Watkins, Timmy	2011	78.08	1203-001980	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
19330	Woods, Robyn	2012	28.70	1205-002501	Vehicle Taxes	Release	Proration
			\$	535.65			
19327	Deese, Kevin	2011	15.12	1109-000486	Vehicle Taxes	Refund	Proration
19329	Tillman, Thomas A	2011	2.80	1109-001736	Vehicle Taxes	Refund	Proration
			\$	17.92			
20160	Allen, Johnny	2012	8.84	1204-000023	Vehicle Taxes	Adjustment	Situs
20161	Allen, Johnny	2012	0.30	1205-000036	Vehicle Taxes	Adjustment	Situs
			\$	9.14			
				562.71			

**Budget Amendment – Health Department:** to appropriate additional funding from the North Carolina Division of Public Health to the Anson County health Department for the Physical Activity, Healthy Eating and Avoidance of Tobacco Use Program.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase:	Health Programs 11-5110-5181	\$	494
Total Increase:		\$	494

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase:	Health All Programs 11-5100	\$	494
Total Increase:		\$	494

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Sheriff/Jail:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Sheriff/Jail budget until Fiscal Year end June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Sheriff/Jail 11-4310-4320 \$ 10,600

Total Increase: \$ 10,600

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Tax Collector 11-4141 \$ 10,600

Total Increase: \$ 10,600

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Emergency Management:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Emergency Management budget until fiscal year end June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the fiscal year 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Emergency Management 11-4330 \$ 2,658

Total Increase: \$ 2,658

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Emergency Management 11-4330 \$ 2,658

Total Increase: \$ 2,658

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Board of Elections:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Board of Elections budget until end of fiscal year June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Board of Elections 11-4170 \$ 25,300

Total Increase: \$ 25,300

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Tax Collector 11-4141 \$ 25,300

Total Increase: \$ 25,300

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Cooperative Extension:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Cooperative Extension budget until fiscal year end June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows.,

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Cooperative Extension 11-4950 \$ 2,300

Total Increase: \$ 2,300

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Tax Collector 11-4141 \$ 2,300

Total Increase: \$ 2,300

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Sheriff/Jail:** to recognize and appropriate interest earned on closing the Sun Trust Escrow Account – Sheriff/jail 2011-2012 Vehicle Loan.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Sheriff/Jail \$ 221

Total Increase: \$ 221

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Governing Body General Administration 11-4110 \$ 221

Total Increase: \$ 221

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Social Services:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Social Services budget until end of fiscal year June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Social Services 11-5310-5580 \$ 20,000

Total Increase: \$ 20,000

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: EMS 11-4368 \$ 20,000

Total Increase: \$ 20,000

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Domestic Violence Coalition:** to appropriate additional revenues from the NC Council for women for the DV, ML and Sheriff Allen Programs with the Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition.

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Domestic Violence Coalition 11-4325 \$ 2,983

Total Increase: \$ 2,983

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Domestic Violence coalition 11-4325 \$ 2,983

Total Increase: \$ 2,983

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Sheriff/Jail:** to recognize already received revenues in Sheriff/Jail budget to cover additional expenses in the Sheriff/Jail budget fiscal year 2011/2012 ending June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County by FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase: Sheriff/Jail 11-4310-4320 \$ 11,000

Total Increase: \$ 11,000

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase: Sheriff/Jail 11-4310-4320 \$ 11,000

Total Increase: \$ 11,000

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Health Department:** to return unspent funds to the Community Care Partners of Greater Mecklenburg as requested from the Anson County Health Department Child Care and Maternity Coordinators Programs.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the Fiscal year 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase:	Health Programs 11-5110-5181	\$ 43,393
Total Increase:		\$ 43,393

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase:	Health-All Programs 11-5110	\$ 43,393
Total Increase:		\$ 43,393

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Social Services:** to appropriate additional funding from the Transportation DOT Reimb to cover additional expenses at Social Services for FY 2011/12 ending June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase:	Social Services 11-5310-5580	\$ 13,000
Total Increase:		\$ 13,000

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase;	Transportation DOT Reimb 11-3452	\$ 13,000
Total increase:		\$ 13,000

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – McLaurin Center:** to appropriate additional funding from the Transportation –DOT Reimb to cover additional expenses at McLaurin Center for the FY 2011/12 ending June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:

Increase:	McLaurin Center 11-5930	\$ 2,000
Total Increase:		\$ 2,000

Section 2. General Fund Revenues:

Increase:	Transportation –DOT Reimb 11-3452	\$ 2,000
Total Increase:		\$ 2,000

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Fire District Collections – Gulledge Fire District:** to adjust Fire District Collections for Gulledge Fire District:

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

Section 19. Fire District Fund:

Increase:	71-0001 Fire District Tax Fund	\$ 1,500
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Total Increase:	\$ 1,500
<u>Section 10. Fire District Taxes Collection:</u>	
Increase: 71-4340 Fire District Tax Fund	\$ 1,500
Total Increase:	\$ 1,500

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Parks and Recreation:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Parks and recreation budget until end of fiscal year June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

<u>Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:</u>	
Increase: Parks and Recreation 11-6120	\$ 2,500
Total Increase:	\$ 2,500
<u>Section 2. General Fund Revenues:</u>	
Increase: Tax Collector 11-4141	\$ 2,500
Total Increase:	\$ 2,500

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Library Building:** to appropriate already received revenues to cover expenses in Library Building budget until end of FY June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

<u>Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:</u>	
Increase: Library Building 11-6167	\$ 7,000
Total Increase:	\$ 7,000
<u>Section 2. General Fund Revenues:</u>	
Increase: Tax Collector 11-4141	\$ 7,000
Total Increase:	\$ 7,000

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Budget Amendment – Health Department:** to appropriate additional funding from the Yost Foundation Fund Balance to cover additional expenses at Health Department for FY 2011/12 ending June 30, 2012.

**AMENDMENT**

Anson County Budget Ordinance FY 2011/12

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Anson County Board of Commissioners that the FY 2011/12 Budget Ordinance be amended as follows:

<u>Section 1. General Fund Expenditures:</u>	
Increase: Health programs 11-5110-5181	\$ 1,700
Total Increase:	\$ 1,700
<u>Section 2. General Fund Revenues:</u>	
Increase: Health-All Programs 11-5100	\$ 1,700
Total Increase:	\$ 1,700

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

**Closed Session:** Motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to go into closed session for personnel, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or

employee, and North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish or instruct the staff or agent concerning the negotiation of the amount of a compensation or other terms of an employment contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Vice Chair Streater, to come out of closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to move Jeff's salary to \$53,360. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to move the County Attorney from \$125 an hour to \$150 an hour and continue at \$300 a meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Vice Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to recess until Friday, June 29, 2012 at 12:00 Noon. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Bonnie M. Huntley, CMC, NCCCC  
Clerk to the Board

Meeting time: 1 hr.