

**THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center.

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

Staff members present: Rita James, Interim County Manager  
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board  
Cary Garner, Finance Officer

Other: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, welcoming all who are present. Chairman Baucom asked Reverend Jeff Glenn to deliver the **Invocation**.

#### **Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:**

Commissioner Sims moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Hearing:**

Vice-Chair Streater moved to open the public hearing for Project Rocky, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

John Marek, Anson County Economic Development Partnership and Megan Sellers, existing industry coordinator, presented the Board with a tax grant incentive proposal for consideration. Ms. Sellers stated that the company is looking to expand its existing industry operations in Polkton. "Project Rocky" manufactures fabricated metal components. Ms. Sellers shared that this project will result in a \$4.86 million dollar investment in Anson County and would create thirty-three (33) new full-time jobs within 3 years.

Ms. Sellers stated that the Anson County Economic Development Partnership requests, in accordance with the Anson County Industrial Development Incentive Policy that the Board grant approval for a performance-based incentive in the amount of \$120,576, over 5 years.

Chairman Baucom opened the floor for public comments. No one responded.

Commissioner Sims moved to close the public hearing for “Project Rocky”, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sims moved to approve the “Project Rocky” tax grant incentive proposal, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Addresses:**

**Wanda Exum, Elderly Services Director**, appeared before the Board to thank them for their support as she enters into her new role as director. Ms. Exum introduced her full-time staff: In-Home Supervisor Rita Short, Nutrition Program Supervisor Jennifer Tarlton, and part-time Activities Director Marilyn Jones. Ms. Exum stated her department is a team and will continue to be advocates for Anson County Senior Citizens.

**Vancine Sturdivant/Ralph Jackson**, Commissioner Sturdivant informed the Board of a fundraiser hosted by The Bearcat Athletic Support Foundation. Commissioner Sturdivant challenged the Board members to contribute. Coach Ralph Jackson shared with the Board additional information about the Anson High School football program. Coach Jackson said he wants to create a vision for his players beyond football.

**Lewis Evans, Anson County Tourism Development Authority Chairman** appeared before the Board for an update, along with the 2018/2019 budget proposal for the ACTDA. Mr. Evans shared with the Board that the occupancy sales tax generated \$30,025.70 for this collection period. Mr. Evans talked about several expenditures wherein the ACTDA contributed \$1800 for the NC Visitors Center, \$1726 in operational funds requests, \$8,377 for patriotic banners, and \$3200 for billboards. Mr. Evans stated that the 2018/2019 proposed budget for ACTDA totals \$40,900. Mr. Evans invited Board members to an Anson United “Meet & Greet” event at Hatcher Park, Lilesville, August 28, 12-2 pm.

**Michael Freeman, Anson County High School Superintendent**, presented two grant proposals to the Board for their consideration. Mr. Freeman explained that on July 31, the application for school based need capital fund money was released for tier I counties, with a submission deadline of August 31.

Mr. Freeman stated that in order to qualify for the grant, the Board have to agree to a 3 to1 match of \$15 million dollars, in which the County's portion will be \$5 million dollars. Mr. Freeman stated this would not be enough to build the new middle school; but it would be enough to get started, while developing other funding options.

Mr. Freeman shared information about a state level grant for a School Resource Officer. Mr. Freeman stated Anson County Schools was awarded \$33,300, with a county match of \$16,667 local dollars, with a total of four (4) SRO's positions for Anson County Schools.

The Board asked Finance Officer Cary Garner to research these requests to see if the County has the financial capabilities to obligate itself to these local grant match requirements.

Attorney Forbes stated that the County's requirement to secure the grant is only 1/3 of the \$15 Million sought, and not the entire construction amount.

#### **Appearances:**

**David Edwards, Wadesboro Town Manager** appeared before the Board to discuss the Uptown Wadesboro square property. Mr. Edwards explained that Town of Wadesboro received a 3-part grant about two years ago from NC Department of Commerce: wayfinding signage, uptown square clock, and uptown square revitalization. Mr. Edwards requested that the Board consider the two parcels of land, owned by the county located in uptown Wadesboro be sold, long-term leased, or deeded to the Town of Wadesboro. Mr. Edwards stated that the town has \$43,000 for this project, but has to have ownership or at least control of these parcels. The Board by consensus asked the County Manager and County Attorney to work with Mr. Edwards on a mutual written agreement between Anson County and the Town of Wadesboro.

**Chrissy Perez, USB Recycling Manager** introduced Board members to her company called USB Recycling, a waste and surplus recycling company located in Anson County. Ms. Perez stated her company will destroy old unwanted IT equipment, records, and documents, with a fee. Ms. Perez invited the Board to visit and tour their facility

**Appointments:**

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to appoint George E. Short, Jr. to the Anson Agriculture Advisory Board member rotation, representing District 3, seconded by Commissioner Sims. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sims moved to re-appoint Commissioner Ross Streater to the Sandhills Center Board of Directors, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager's Report:**

Interim County Manager James informed the Board that the Veterans Services Officer would like to have the Veterans Ceremony and events on November 9. County Manager James shared with the Board to continue an interlocal agreement with the Town of Wadesboro and First Baptist Church for the parking lot behind DSS, noting the last agreement, dated August 2013 for four years. County Manager James said this new agreement would be 75% county and 25% City, shared cost, due to the number of cars the county has parking in the lot, for an additional four years. The Board by consensus decided to enter into the agreement for a 2-year term. County Manager James informed the Board that the County has received \$171,861 or 5.99% more in sales tax monies than the previous fiscal year.

**Chairman's Report:**

Chairman Baucom reminded the Board and the audience of the Back to School campaigns. Commissioner Sturdivant addressed the Board and audience members, stating that her back to school program will be coming up soon and all school supplies will be given out to the teachers in support of the schools.

**Consent Agenda:**

Vice-Chair Streater move to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Board minutes, tax releases/refunds/adjustments, and surplus items, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Commissioners Concerns:**

The Board of Commissioners discussed their concerns about Department Heads and Directors not residing within Anson County. The Board discussed the residence policy and the options of keeping or removing it from the Anson County ordinance. The Board, by consensus decided to table this issue.

The Board by consensus decided to table the employee summer luncheon.

Commissioner Sikes shared his concerns with EMS purchasing a new ambulance. County Manager James stated that EMS recently bought two new ambulances and a QRV for \$541,000. County Manager James stated that the county could go into debt services and purchase an additional ambulance for a three-year term. The Board asked for more information on this issue.

Commissioner Woodburn informed the Agri-civic center committee met on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and will meet again in September, and encouraged all questions be directed to the Clerk and then forwarded on to the committee.

Commissioner Woodburn said he has spent some time with Mr. Dutton, tax Collector, and it appears that electronic payments would be a plus and improve collection rates.

## **Closed Session:**

Motion by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to go into closed session for Personnel and Economic Development, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) and North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4). Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

In regular session, Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sikes, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon  
Clerk to the Board