

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 6, 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
Bobby Sikes
Vancine Sturdivant
Jim Sims
Jarvis Woodburn

Commissioners absent: Harold Smith

Staff members present: Rita James, Interim County Manager
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board
Larry Newton, Tax Assessor
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 Rob Washington to deliver the **Invocation**.

Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:

Chairman Baucom added two Commissioners Concerns from Commissioner Sikes and Commissioner Sims; fire district tax and the new communication system to the agenda. Commissioner Sims moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

Commissioner Sikes made a motion to open the public hearing for the 2018 Schedule of Standards, Values and Rules, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Newton stated that the public hearing is required by required by GS 105-317, and newspaper ads placed in the Anson Record for the past 4 prior weeks. Mr. Newton reminded everyone that the 2018 Schedule of Standards, Values and Rules was presented to the Board of Commissioners at the February 6, 2018 meeting, and this revaluation sets schedules standards and rules for the appraisal of real property until the next Octennial Cycle. Mr. Newton stated that the values remain about the same as before and there is not a lot of change in the schedule.

Chairman Baucom opened the floor for comments on the 2018 Schedule of Standards, Values and Rules.

No one offered any comments.

Vice-Chair Streater moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Public Addresses:

Joan Taylor addressed the Board concerning an incident with the Anson County Sheriff's Office. Ms. Taylor was angry and stated that she felt verbally abused by deputies who responded to a call at one of her rental properties. Ms. Taylor felt she has been treated unfairly and inappropriately. Sheriff Reid addressed Ms. Taylor and explained the actions of his deputies were indeed warranted and his investigation found no wrongdoing on their part. Attorney Forbes advised the Board that they do not have the authority to intervene in an ongoing investigation, as the Sheriff is an autonomous entity with separate powers.

Truett Wright appeared before the Board and shared his concerns with the county's mapping system, claiming it is "out of date." Mr. Wright shared his concerns about tax collection; he feels that property has been inherited by people that are able to work and pay taxes, but those taxes are not being collected. Mr. Wright stated that collecting taxes could help the Sheriff's Office with equipment, training, and enforcement of traffic violations, especially high speed racing. Mr. Wright told the Board about homes that he feels are health hazards and suggested the Board consider an ordinance.

Terry Helms addressed the Board to share concerns about the Peachland area law enforcement coverage. Sheriff Reid assured Mr. Helms that Peachland area is receiving equal coverage as the rest of the county. Mr. Helms also shared that his major concern is tax overhaul and feels a plan needs to be in place to bring more money in, such as soliciting businesses to move to the County and not overburdening to the taxpayer.

Appearances:

Ron Smith, Centralina Council of Governments Executive Director presented the Board with a 2018 Proclamation honoring Anson County. Mr. Smith explained that Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018. During each month between March and November, CCOG will honor one county in the nine-county region. For the month of March, CCOG is recognizing Anson County as a valued member of the organization for its successes and collaborative work with CCOG.

Justin Rice, Field Director of Marsy's Law for North Carolina, appeared before the Board to explain and ask for the Commissioner's assistance in the adoption of a resolution supporting Marsy's law. Mr. Rice explained that Marsy's Law for North Carolina seeks to amend the state constitution in order to provide an equal level of constitutional protections to victims of crimes that are already afforded to the accused and convicted. Marsy's Law is supported across the political spectrum to ensure that victims have the same "co-equal" rights as the accused and convicted - nothing more, nothing less". Marsy's Law support to give the victim a voice in the process; not a veto. Commissioner Sims made a motion to adopt a resolution supporting Mary's Law, seconded by Vice-Chair Streater, motion carried unanimously.

Tyler Fitzgerald addressed the Board concerning the Ordinance Granting Sanitary Landfill Franchise, noting a request to expand the footprint from the original 133 acres to 210 acres to increase the life span of the facility. Vice-Chair Streater moved to approve the change in the Ordinance Granting Sanitary Landfill Franchise. Motion carried (5 to 1): (Ayes-yes: Baucom, Streater, Sturdivant, Sikes, and Woodburn), (Nay-no: Sims).

Tyler Fitzgerald also addressed the Board concerning the Fifth Supplemental Agreement to the Host Fee Agreement. Mr. Fitzgerald discussed with the Board the life of the landfill, safety of the landfill, and the Board's concerns for the citizens. Mr. Fitzgerald explained the significant increase in income to the County. Commissioner Woodburn moved to approve the Fifth Supplemental Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried (5 to 1): (Ayes-yes: Baucom, Streater, Sturdivant, Sikes, and Woodburn), (Nay-no: Sims).

Dr. Fred Thompson, Anson County Health Department Director, presented the 2017 State of the County Health Report to the Board. Mr. Thompson also introduced Mr. Dave Anderson, Carolinas Healthcare System-Anson Administrator.

Scott Rowell, Anson County ACTS Director, appeared before the Board to present the ACTS Grants and Financial Management Policies & Procedures. Vice-Chair Streater moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sturdivant moved to approve the ACTS Conflict of Interest Statement, seconded by Vice-Chair Streater, motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Reid/Captain Paxton, Anson County Sheriff's Office discussed mental health issues concerning the jail and transport. Sheriff Reid advised it takes additional part-time and overtime staff to monitor and transport individuals with mental health issues to county and surrounding area hospitals. Chief Spencer added that most mental health facilities use in-network placements. Vice-Chair Streater shared that a Mental Health First Aid Class will be offered on March 29, 2018, at CHS – Anson, and encouraged everyone to attend. Commissioner Woodburn stated that this was a statewide problem and Boards need to start contacting the local legislatures addressing this issue. The current demands stress the departments and taxpayers.

Commissioner Woodburn moved to compose a letter on behalf of Anson County addressing the mental health issues, to be sent to Representative Brody and Senator McInnis, seconded by Commissioner Sims. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sims acknowledged Superintendent Michael Freeman (in the audience) for receiving the 2018 NC Regional Superintendent of the Year Award. Commissioner Sturdivant acknowledged Mr. Freeman for his Community Forum on School Safety.

*Chairman Baucom asked for a break and the Board accommodated.

Appointments:

Commissioner Woodburn moved to appoint Caroline Goins to the Centralina Workforce Development Board, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Countywide Zoning:

Chairman Baucom asked for this agenda item (Countywide Zoning) be stricken/removed from the agenda. The Board had no objections.

Commissioner Sims moved to send a letter informing the fire districts of the timeline for tax rate equalization, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows: board minutes, tax releases/refunds/adjustments, Logan System renewal, Sandhills Quarterly Report, vehicle tax and water bill write-offs: vehicle write-offs totaled \$188,223.90, water write-offs totaled \$5,599.25, sewer write-offs totaled \$90.53, Wadesboro sewer \$37.50, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session:

Motion by Vice-Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, to go into closed session to Prevent the disclosure of privileged information: North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1) Under the North Carolina General Statutes or regulations. Economic Development: North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body. Consult with the Attorney: North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3) to consider and give instructions concerning a potential or actual claim, administrative procedure, or judicial action. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Sikes, seconded by Commissioner Sims to come out of closed session, motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, Commissioner Sikes made a motion to recess until March 14, 2018, 6:00 pm seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon
Clerk to the Board