

**THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 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  
Jarvis Woodburn

Commissioners absent: Harold Smith  
Jim Sims

Staff members present: Megan Garner, County Manager  
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board  
Cary Garner, Finance Officer  
Beth Dunn, HR Manager  
Larry Newton, Tax Assessor

Other: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, welcoming those present. Chairman Baucom called on Reverend Terry Little to deliver the Invocation. Reverend Little was not present, Chairman Baucom recognized Cary Rodgers to deliver the **Invocation**

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

Chairman Baucom asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the agenda. County Manager Garner asked to have the Tax Releases and Refunds added to the Consent agenda. Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to approve the agenda, Commissioner Woodburn seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Appearances:**

**Dr. Fred Thompson:** Dr. Thompson informed the Board of the 2016 Community Health Assessment, which was jointly completed by Anson County Health Department and Carolinas Healthcare System- Anson, has been submitted to Raleigh; hard copy and electronic. Dr. Thompson shared

that Anson County has consistently ranked as one of the 20 least healthy counties of North Carolina. Anson County is not making progress with two major health areas, diabetes and obesity. Dr. Thompson noted that 546 Ansonians completed the public input surveys along with 27 key informant interviews. Dr. Thompson shared that Anson County has the highest percentage of children in a single-parent household compared to its peer counties and the State. Anson County had the highest percentage of overweight and obese children ages 2 to 4 in its peer county group and the State, which leads to early onset of diabetes, high blood pressure, etc. He expressed that the opinion expressed by the public through the survey and interviews is that there is a need to be more resources to help prevent STD's and Teen Pregnancies, noting that Anson has the highest rate of newly diagnosed Gonorrhea cases and a significant increase in the number of new Syphilis cases. Dr. Thompson said that his top budget priority is a Public Health Educator. Commissioner Sturdivant asked Dr. Thompson to get the clerk a job description for the Public Health Educator.

**Chris Morton and Jan Taylor:** Ms. Morton and Ms. Taylor introduced themselves and talked about their organization "Friends of the Animal Shelter," formed to assist the Anson County Animal Shelter. They can assist to obtain special items that may not be funded in the animal shelter's budget, not the day to day operation expenses. They have provided all the materials to their accountant to apply for a 501C (3), hoping to be a non-profit organization and will be able to receive tax deductible donations and apply for grants. Ms. Taylor introduced Anson County Animal Shelter Director, Ms. Maureen Lett. Ms. Lett shared the statistics on animal adoption and animal deaths. Ms. Lett feels that people do not have a big regard for animals in the county. Ms. Lett asked for questions. Chairman Baucom shared her appreciation for the Ms. Lett's work, along with Ms. Morton and the Friends of the Animal Shelter.

### **Public Addresses to the Board**

**Claude Ingram:** Mr. Ingram of Poplar Hill Baptist Church expressed concern about one of the church members has illegally tapped onto the water line that the church had installed twenty years ago. Attorney Forbes stated that the Anson County Water Department will investigate this concern tomorrow. County Manager Garner noted she will accompany them.

**Janet Dyson:** Ms. Dyson asked the Board if coal ash contaminated dirt is being dumped into the landfill? Chairman Baucom reminded Ms. Dyson that this is the part of the meeting where the public talks to the Board and the Board listens to their comments. Commissioner Sikes said the Board will check on her concern and get back with her. Ms. Dyson shared she wishes the churches would get involved with the Anson County Health Department.

**Myra Dalglish:** Ms. Dalglish, Polkton Town Commissioner addressed her concerns about the TR2, evaluation and property tax levy report, due February 1, that the county provides for the town to send to the Department of Revenue. She received a call from the Department of Revenue, notifying that Anson County is the only county in the state that has not submitted this report. Finance Officer Cary Garner noted that he and the County Manager Garner addressed the issue this morning with data processing, and should see something in a day or two.

Chairman Baucom asked Tyler Fitzgerald, if they are taking coal ash at the landfill? Mr. Fitzgerald responded by saying “no”. Chairman Baucom asked is the soil contaminated? Mr. Fitzgerald responded “not with coal ash.” Chairman Baucom asked what is it contaminated with? Mr. Fitzgerald responded by saying he would have to go back and look at the “analyticals.”

## **Old Business:**

### **Interlocal Agreements for Utilities**

County Manager Garner presented an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Wadesboro, which has been approved at their Town Council meeting. Commissioner Streater made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Wadesboro, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

### **Countywide Zoning**

No new updates to report

## **New Business:**

### **Human Resources Policy Changes:**

**Beth Dunn,** HR Manager presented the revised Anson County holiday schedule which reflects the State schedule. The Board expressed concerned

over employees not getting their holidays off. Ms. Dunn talked about the removal of employee sick leave transfer cap of 240 hours, from other agencies and/or entities. Commissioner Woodburn was concerned with the amount of money that the county may have to pay out; money that the employee did not earn in Anson County. Ms. Dunn also mentioned, extending the length of time for a resignation notice for department heads and employees, pay grade 66 or higher. Commissioner Sikes asked about the position at the airport. County Manager Garner said the position is being advertised now. Commissioner Woodburn believes the extension of the resignation notice should be in place, so there is more time to address filling critical positions. Ms. Dunn said this change will be beneficial for retirees in key positions. Commissioner Woodburn noted that the resignation notice should be written and not verbal, that the personnel policy should have that stated in there. Commissioner Sturdivant asked about the employee donation of sick leave form, noting that the form needs to have a specific place to put the name of the recipient, which is receiving the donated time. County Manager Garner said the form has been updated. Commissioner Sikes and Commissioner Woodburn ask for more clarification on the sick leave policy changes. Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to approve the revised Anson County holiday schedule and to extend the resignation notice submission of department heads and employees pay grade of 66 or higher from 30 days to 60 days. Commissioner Streater seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Payroll Software Proposal:**

**Cary Garner**, Finance Officer talked about the implementation of Paylocity Payroll Software. Mr. Garner noted this is the first leg of moving the county forward as part of the overall system upgrade. Mr. Garner said that this package has HR functions, applicant tracking, ACA and EEOC reporting requirements. Mr. Garner said the overall goal is transparency, multiple users, and a system that is intuitive that the staff can use. Commissioner Streater made a motion to implement Paylocity Payroll Software, Commissioner Sturdivant seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Manager's Report:**

County Manager Garner advised the Board that the budget process had begun and all department budgets have been emailed and are due back by Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Departments will have an opportunity to submit their

top three (3) priorities. Individual department budget meetings will be held the week of March 20<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Streater shared that with the county's insurance savings, he would like to give the employees a decent raise this year. County Manager Garner noted that the cost of living increase is a major goal, moving forward with the upcoming budget process. Commissioner Sturdivant mentioned the Agri-Civic Center needs to move forward. County Manager Garner shared that she signed a verification letter for the Anson County School System. They have been invited to submit a full application to Golden Leaf. County Manager Garner reminded the Board of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce's Shamrock Shuffle 5K, uptown Wadesboro, March 17.

### **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman Baucom reported that there is house deconstruction debris on Airport Rd., across from Anson County Park. County Manager Garner said she would check into it. Chairman Baucom shared that the Board received a certificate of appreciation from Anson County's Toys for Tots. Chairman Baucom expressed her appreciation for Commissioner Sturdivant and that she is the reason for Anson County Toy for Tots, adding that toys were distributed to over 3700 kids this past Christmas. Chairman Baucom shared concern for the litter problem in Anson County and thinks the Board should develop strategies to deal with this problem. Chairman Baucom feels the county needs to deal with penalties and fines that are enforceable, in combination with starting a volunteer program. Chairman Baucom mentioned a rewards system to encourage civic groups to participate, along with finding different organizations to partner with, to promote Anson Pride/Anti-Litter Campaign. Commissioner Sikes mentioned inmate clean-up.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Motion made to approve consent agenda which included the Vehicle Tax and Water Bill Write-Offs: vehicle write-offs totaled \$134,869.44, water write-offs totaled \$3,337.77 and sewer write-offs totaled \$402.09, by Commissioner Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Appointments:**

Motion made by Commissioner Woodburn to appoint Ms. Cassandra Byers to the ACTS Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion passed unanimously.

## **Commissioner Concerns:**

Commissioner Woodburn mentioned that the SPCC joint meeting with the Board of Commissioner is April 11, 2017, at 6:00 pm, at Polkton Depot. Commissioner Streater shared that there will be reserved seating for the Commissioners at the funeral of Mrs. Harold Smith. Commissioner Sturdivant discussed her activity in the schools. All the principals got toys/electronics to put in their school display case as an incentive for the students for their positive behavior. Chairman Baucom shared that Commissioner Sturdivant's work in the school system is appreciated.

**Closed Session:** Motion by Commissioner Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, to go into closed session for personnel, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(6). Motion carried unanimously.

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

In regular session, motion by Commissioner Sikes to recess until Thursday, March 9, 2017, at 5:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon  
Clerk to the Board