

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for a recessed meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 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
Dr. Jim Sims
Bobby Sikes
Vancine Sturdivant
Jarvis Woodburn

Staff members present: Megan Garner, County Manager
Bonnie M. Huntley, NCCCC Clerk to the Board
Rita James, IT/Interim Finance Officer

Other: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

Chairman Baucom called the recessed meeting to Order, welcoming those present.

Motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Vice Chair Streater, to go into closed session for personnel, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(6). Motion carried unanimously.

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

In open session, County Manager Garner stated that the organizational changes would be in the budget and the board can direct her to go ahead and advertise for the HR Manager position to be filled after July 1, 2016. Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Commissioner Sikes, to direct the County Manager to begin advertising for a HR person. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Garner asked board members if they wanted them to bring Premier Fibers to a future board meeting for consideration of an incentive. Chairman Baucom felt if we could reactivate that with Vice Chair Streater feeling it would not be bad to save those jobs. The Clerk shared that the Public Hearing notice had to run for 10 days and she would put it in the May 25th Anson Record.

Chairman Baucom asked if they needed to meet again before the June 7th meeting with Vice Chair Streater thinking they needed to set some budget dates. Board

members decided to set dates at the June 7th meeting. County Manager Garner noted that the budget Public Hearing was set for June 13th. Vice Chair Streater asked if they needed to meet between the 7th and the 13th or if they could meet afterwards. Vice Chair Streater asked if any request can come in with County Manager Garner saying we have received the schools, the college, the forestry and Sandhills Center. County Manager Garner noted that a lot of them were staying the same. Vice Chair Streater asked if there were any new comers with County Manager Garner answering not that she has received. Vice Chair Streater was of the opinion the Arts Council would come back this year. Chairman Baucom felt the best way to support the Arts Council and the Historical Society was to be members. Chairman Baucom felt that until our revenues are better we need to spend our money in other ways. Chairman Baucom encouraged each member to join. Vice Chair Streater asked if there was any new revenue with County Manager Garner noted there was one new revenue from sales tax where you can tax labor that went into effect March 1 but it can only be spent on K-12 education, community college education and Economic Development. Chairman Baucom asked if that was the lump sum tax rebate with County Manager Garner answering no and felt this was to be paid monthly. Chairman Baucom asked if we had gotten any of that money yet with County Manager Garner thinking we have not as it just went in effect March 1st. Commissioner Woodburn added that it was tax on labor and maintenance agreements. Vice Chair Streater asked if anyone knew what that would bring a year and could we use that to fund the Economic Development salary we're talking about with County Manager Garner answering yes. Chairman Baucom stated that there was discussion and talk that the General Assembly was going to rebate or grant some sales tax money back to the counties and asked if we got any of that. County Attorney Forbes thought we were supposed to get about one-half million dollars. Commissioner Woodburn noted that was when they were going to redistribute sales tax dollars based on the tier rating of the counties and they ended up getting additional discussions and they have not decided how they are going to do it. Commissioner Woodburn stated basically they don't want to take anything away from the larger counties. Vice Chair Streater asked if we could use the tax on labor to fund the salary of Economic Development rather than give to the schools with County Manager Garner answering yes.

The Clerk offered that the board has talked about giving money to the AEDC for Economic Development and asked them to remember if they are going to be paying \$85,000 for that person that is the same as what they are paying the County Manager. Vice Chair Streater stated that they would not be paying that salary, they were just giving them that money. Commissioner Sims commented that he always thought \$85,000 was not enough for the County Manager. Commissioner Sims added that it was not a competitive salary and if she does good, in a couple of years she will be gone. Vice Chair Streater commented that he has no problem giving her more money but thinks they need to wait until she's been here a little longer. Commissioner Sturdivant offered that she has been up since 3:30 this morning and her purpose coming here today was to try to help Rita get out of her situation. Commissioner

Sturdivant stated that she was going to vote to let her go home, saying that after the other night she was totally worried about her. Commissioner Sturdivant stated that Rita was doing the job of four people and tonight when they mentioned IT, finance, Human Resource she sees they are now going to hire people to do what she's been doing the whole time. Commissioner Sturdivant felt this was all that needed to be discussed. Commissioner Sturdivant believes Megan will do well and she is doing a good job but she doesn't feel we can afford to give her more money now. Commissioner Sturdivant felt we needed to go ahead and put the job descriptions out and take care of Rita as that is what we came here for. Commissioner Sturdivant added that we need to find the finance person, IT person and the Human Resource person and get them on board as quick as possible. Chairman Baucom stated that some things we talked about like Economic Development needed to at least be put on the table. Chairman Baucom agreed we were all too tired to do much more tonight.

Motion by Commissioner Woodburn, seconded by Vice Chair Streater, to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Bonnie M. Huntley, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board

Meeting time: 2 hrs.