

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 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
Vancine Sturdivant
Jim Sims
Bobby Sikes
Jarvis Woodburn
*Harold Smith

Staff members present: Andrew Wilkison, 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 were present. Chairman Baucom called upon Elder James H. Cohen, Jr. to deliver the **Invocation**.

Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:

Chairman Baucom added property tax releases/refunds/adjustments, two budget amendments to the consent agenda and a request for appointment; Vice-Chair Streater moved to approve the agenda with the additions, Commissioner Woodburn seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing (Positive Alternative Radio, Inc.):

Motion by Vice-Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn to open the public hearing for Positive Alternative Radio, Inc., motion carried unanimously.

Larry Newton, explained that the Planning Board met on this issue August 24, in response to Positive Alternative Radio has filed an application to construct a 418 Radio Tower at 35 Phillips Road, Wadesboro, NC

*Commissioner Smith joined the meeting.

Mr. Newton shared that the Anson Board of Adjustments held a called meeting and a public hearing to consider their request. All adjacent landowners were notified by mail and no one appeared that objected to the construction of the tower. One landowner was in attendance requesting information about construction. A telecommunication tower has occupied this site in past years. Mr. Newton told the Board that Positive Alternative Radio do have approval from the FCC and FAA Boards. Mr. Newton advised the Board that the 911 address has already been established as well as a drive, noting that Positive Alternative Radio has successfully entered into a lease agreement with the property owner(s) and all requirements of the Anson County Telecommunication Tower Ordinance have been met. Positive Alternative Radio Alternative, Inc. is to furnish an addendum to the lease concerning signatures of ownership on the property lease. The Anson County Planning Board recommends approving this request and stated that there were no adverse effects or detriments to the neighborhood or the long term plans for the area.

Mr. Newton paused for Board members' questions. Commissioner Sims asked about tax relief, Mr. Newton shared that this property will be taxed at full value. Attorney Forbes asked will it impact or affect the surrounding neighborhoods, Mr. Newton stated that it has been determined that the approval of the request will not affect the Anson County 2021 Comprehensive Use Plan and it will not materially endanger the public health or safety, if located according to the plan submitted and approved. That the use meets all requirements, conditions and specifications of the Anson County Ordinance. That the use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property. That the location and character of the use, if developed according to the plan as submitted and approved, will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located. Commissioner Sturdivant asked what is the purpose of the tower, Mr. Davis shared that they will be broadcasting Joy FM, their studio is located in Winston Salem, this tower will assist to broadcast to a wider area.

Motion by Vice-Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sims to close the public hearing for Positive Alternative Radio, Inc., motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to approve the construction of a 418 radio tower at 35 Phillips Rd., Wadesboro, NC, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing: (ACTS FY 19 5311 Admin & Capital Council on Aging FY 19 5310 Elderly & Disabled applications)

Motion by Vice-Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sims to open the public hearing for ACTS FY 19 5311 Admin & Capital application and Council on Aging FY 19 5310 Elderly & Disabled applications motion carried unanimously.

Scott Rowell, ACTS director asked the Board to remove the facility part from the application. Mr. Rowell explained to the Board that he is requesting approval for the annual ACTS FY 19 5311 Admin & Capital and Council on Aging FY 19 5310 Elderly & Disabled applications totaling \$609,688, (ACTS) County match is \$65,499 and Council on Aging (Community Care Block Grant funds) match is \$5,000. Chairman Baucom open the floor for questions, none were offered.

Motion by Vice-Chair Streater, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn to close the public hearing for ACTS FY 19 5311 Admin & Capital application and Council on Aging FY 19 5310 Elderly & Disabled applications, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn to approve the ACTS FY19 5311 Admin & Capital application and Council on Aging FY19 5310 Elderly & Disabled applications, motion carried unanimously.

Public Addresses:

Elder James Cohen Jr. addressed the Board to invite and ask for a donation for Empowering Word Ministries, annual “Christmas in November”, scheduled for November 14, 2017. Mr. Cohen shared this is an annual event for the past 20 years and it has served children throughout Anson County. Mr. Cohen shared with the Board that last year Empowering Word Ministries distributed bikes and Ipads. Mr. Cohen asked the board for a donation of \$400.

Chuck Horne appeared before the Board and noted that today was the one-year anniversary of hiring Mr. John Marek, and that everyone seems to be pleased. Mr. Chuck Horne addressed the Board to request funds from the Article 524 sales tax, in the amount of \$60,000 for the Anson County Economic Development Partnership to be distributed in three increments; \$20,000 to paid now, and with the Board's permission, to contact the Finance Officer Garner for the additional funds approximately \$20,000 every four months. Commissioner Sturdivant moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

Charlotte Rhue Bennett re-appeared before the Board to share her concerns about the Confederate statues and the Daughters of the Confederate Soldiers monument located in front of the Anson County Courthouse. Ms. Bennett again read a newspaper article written by herself to the Board addressing the removal of Confederate statues. Ms. Bennett feels that Anson County can lead the way in relocating the statues to a better place for viewing with context for every artifact that considered part of the civil war era. Ms. Bennett conversed with Commissioner Sims concerning white and black slavery. Chairman Baucom suggested that they continue their discussion, outside of the Board meeting. Ms. Bennett offered no monetary suggestions as to who would pay to have the privately funded and donated statues removed and relocated.

Appearances:

Tommy Allen, President of the Historical Society, appeared before the Board to request a historical marker commemorating the 1900 total solar eclipse, to be placed inside the stone wall at the gazebo adjacent to the courthouse property. Mr. Allen discussed with Board that the project is fully funded and the marker has been ordered and is expected to arrive in October. The Marker height will be approximately 10 ft. tall, the face will be black with white lettering on a silver aluminum pole. Commissioner Sims made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Sturdivant asked will there be a special ceremony, Mr. Allen answered, yes it will be an unveiling.

Leon Gatewood, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, presented Ms. Sylvia Jeter with an award of recognition for outstanding and dedicated service to the Anson County Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Gatewood shared with the Board that Ms. Jeter was hired December 6, 1982, as a secretary and has served loyally for nearly 35 years; in her present position as laboratory supervisor, she has served 20 years. Mr. Gatewood also shared with the Board that each year the laboratory has received an "Excellent" ranking for

excellent laboratory quality. Chairman Baucom recognized Ms. Jeter as a wonderful example. Ms. Jeter thanked the Board and Mr. Gatewood for their continued support, noting she had been promoted eight times. Ms. Jeter expressed how much she loves her job and the county.

Randy Gulledge, Anson County System Analyst, spoke on multiple ongoing projects. Projects included AT&T's construction and antennas on the Sikes Avenue water tank. Mr. Gulledge proposed upgrading all first responder radio equipment while AT&T has construction crews on scene. Additionally, the tank will support two more carriers after construction. Mr. Gulledge proposed that rental fees from carriers be set aside for continuous radio improvements. Mr. Gulledge stated that if the county radio improvements coincide with At&t construction projects the County stands to save up to \$30,000 off the estimated \$120,000 price tag. Mr. Gulledge furthered suggested that the first responders would benefit greatly from additional radio coverage, by updating existing repeater systems and perhaps adding more channels. Mr. Gulledge stated that he was unable to begin Census updates due to a missing participation agreement. Chairman Baucom noted that she had a package that could possibly be the document in question. Motion made by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Sims to approve Interim County Manager Wilkison to sign the Census 2020 update participation agreement, allowing Mr. Gulledge to proceed with providing updated information to the Census Bureau on behalf of Anson County. Mr. Gulledge reported that the Discover Anson TDA website and county website development had resumed in August and the graphics are currently being fine-tuned.

*Chairman Baucom asked for a 10-minute break.

Administrative Matters:

Centralina Council of Governments

Interim County Manager Wilkison presented a resolution from Centralina Council of Governments to show support of the Centralina Mobility Management and Volunteer Transportation Services in the community and applications for NCDOT funding, with no cost to the county. County Manager Wilkison shared this will help with transportation mobility with seniors, disable persons and veterans. Commissioner Sims moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Countywide Zoning:

No action taken

Appointments:

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant to reappoint Mr. William Wall Jr. to the Jury Commission.

Manager's Report:

Interim County Manager Wilkison discussed options for the GreenGo easement in response to the counterproposals that the county sent regarding the right of way that they requested at the last meeting. County Manager Wilkison stated that GreenGo had made a proposal of about 2600 ft. across Little's Park, the County made six counterproposals, on which they agree. County Manager Wilkison stated if the Board approves the easement, Anson County would receive over \$15,000, in addition to any income from the sale of timber. Commissioner Sims asked the affect the people walking in the park or park activities. County Manager Wilkison said he discussed this with Jeff Waisner, and they recommend, "option 2" which is the west side of the property and away from the walking trail. Interim County Manager Wilkison stated that with the Chairman's approval, he will report back to GreenGo that the County is ready to move forward, although they still will be required to go through the entire process of getting approval of the solar farm from the planning and zoning Board, and eventually the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Baucom reminded the Board of a previous project. Interim County Manager Wilkison shared with the Board that the HH Architectural Firm would like to schedule an appearance before the Board to discuss options for the schematic design and cost reductions. County Manager Wilkison offered October 19, 23-after 4:30pm, or 25, as dates to consider meeting with the Architectural Firm. Chairman Baucom suggested the Board choose a date at the recessed meeting on October 9.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Baucom shared with the Board that the Eagle Scout Service Project for Anson County will be accepting donations of stuffed animals to give to emergency services to take to emergency situations where children may be. Chairman Baucom

reminded the Board of the Veterans Day activities on November 9th, along with a car show at Ray Shelton Ball Field. Chairman Baucom shared that the insurance information has not gotten out to the employees in a systematic fashion, and proposed a department head meeting with the County Manager on a routine schedule to share information.

Consent Agenda:

Vice-Chair Streater moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Board minutes, two budget amendments (Public School Outlay Reserve Fund and General Fund Expenditures; Public Schools), and tax releases/refunds/adjustments, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Concerns:

Vice Chair Streater addressed the Board on behalf of Anson County Animal Shelter. Vice-Chair Streater identified the need of \$19,038.40. Vice-Chair Streater said these funds will be used for employee vaccinations, separation of animals, and proper gravel. Vice-Chair Streater iterated that this is not a wish list, all items requested are necessities. Finance Officer Cary Garner and Vice-Chair Streater, agreed to meet to develop a future budget amendment for the Board's consideration. Vice-Chair Streater shared that a citizen asked about vendors at Little's park, he inquired about a contract with the County having a vending station or truck to be set up during the sporting activities. Vice-Chair Streater said this individual would be willing to build a building with his own funds, if the County leased him a space. County Manager Wilkison feels it would be better for a vendor to use a food truck. County Manager Wilkison suggested this may qualify for a bidding process. Board members discussed that vendors must be in compliance with all rules and regulations of the Anson County Health Department. Commissioner Woodburn reminded the Board of the installation ceremony of SPCC President Dr. Pharr, October 6, 2017.

Closed Session:

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

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

Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to recess until October 9, 2017, seconded by Commissioner Sikes, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon
Clerk to the Board