MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY

Greensboro, North Carolina
October 6, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on October 6, 2011 at 5:30 p.m., in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Melvin “Skip” Alston, presiding; Vice Chairman Linda Shaw; Commissioners Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman (via telephone joined meeting at 6:23 p.m.), Bruce Davis (entered at 5:49 p.m.), Paul Gibson, Kirk Perkins, John Parks, Mike Winstead and Billy Yow.

ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Bencini.

ALSO PRESENT: Brenda Fox, County Manager; Sharisse Fuller, Assistant County Manager/Human Resources Director; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Sandy Woodard, Property Management Director; Effie Varitimidis, Clerk to Board; Crystal Maurer, Deputy Clerk to Board and members of the press.

I. INVOCATION

Diane McLaughlin from the Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’i of Greensboro provided the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Girl Scout Cadette Troop #40415 from St. Paul’s Roman Catholic Church led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alston welcomed everyone present.

IV. PRESENTED PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS' RIGHTS MONTH

Commissioner John Parks presented the proclamation to Mary Lou Andrew-Blakeney, Chairman Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee and she accepted it on behalf of seniors in Guilford County.
Commissioner Parks also recognized Dorian Frederickson, Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee Ombudsman and Kim Johnson, Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee Ombudsman and other representatives present.

V. PRESENTED PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2-8, 2011 AS MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

Commissioner Kay Cashion presented the proclamation to Jack Glenn, President of the Guilford National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

Mr. Glenn thanked the Board for their concern on mental illness.

VI. PRESENTED PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Vice Chairman Shaw presented the proclamation to Judy Southern, Clinical Services Program Manager Guilford County Public Health Department.

Ms. Southern thanked the Board for their support and gave them a pink ribbon along with providing everyone information on breast cancer.

VII. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Gary Gatross, 4161 Graytuck Drive, Greensboro, thanked the four Commissioners that voted no on a recent the fuel contract and encouraged the other Commissioners to reconsider the fuel contract. He stated that he was the person responsible for fuel delivery to the county and asked the Board to monitor fuel prices and revisit this matter.

Ruby Wescoat, 1409 Fairmont Street, Greensboro, spoke about the need for a spay and neutering program in Guilford County. She said such a program will reduce animal suffering in Guilford County.

Jan Grafton, 1824 Andrew Farms Road, Whitsett, spoke on behalf of the animals in the county. She said the animal population is exploding and that there are a great number of animals at the Guilford County Animal Shelter. She asked the Board to take advantage of state funding by establishing a spay and neuter program in Guilford County.

Frankie Heath, 1104 Hobbs Road, Greensboro, President of People and Paws for Hope, invited the Board to attend their upcoming Open House on October 31st and thanked the Board for allowing them to use a vacant county building for their program. She also encouraged the Board to support the spay and neutering initiative.

Commissioner Perkins added that staff recommended the building be torn down but that it now has been put to good use through the effort of many volunteers.
Van Clippard, 8404 Creeks Edge Court, Oak Ridge, said he visited the International Civil Rights Museum and said it is an asset to Guilford County. He urged other citizens to visit. He also spoke on United Nations Agenda 21 based on environmental initiatives and studies in the 1990’s. He said it is an assault on individuals property rights.

Doug Levine, 4117 Dogwood Drive, Greensboro, spoke in support of a spay and neuter program in Guilford County. He said Guilford County is the largest county in the state that does not have differential licensing. He said such a program would encourage people to be responsible for their animals. He urged the Board and the County to tap into state dollars available and establish a program in Guilford County.

Calb Scott, 3508 Brevard Street, Greensboro, founding member of Susie’s law, said the county has the best animal shelter. He said the county must be proactive regarding a sterilization program for animals and urged the Board to support such a program.

Brenda Overman, 3911 Presbyterian Road, Greensboro, spoke on the need for a spay neutering program in Guilford County. She also spoke on the new SCPA mobile animal clinic and said everyone must work together to make a difference and thanked sponsors of the mobile clinic.

VIII. APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Alston asked if any Commissioners would like to remove any items from the consent agenda for separate consideration.

Commissioner Gibson said he would like to remove Item VIII. C. 4.

Motion was made by Commissioner John Parks and seconded by Vice Chairman Linda Shaw to approve the following consent agenda.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 7 – 3.
AYES: Commissioners Melvin “Skip” Alston, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman, Bruce Davis, Kirk Perkins, John Parks, Linda Shaw.
NOES: Commissioners Paul Gibson, Billy Yow, Mike Winstead.
ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Bencini.

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A. 1. Approved amendment to FY 2011-12 budget to increase Refinancing Proceeds - Installment Purchases revenue and increase appropriations in the Debt Service department in the amount of $3,316,300 to reflect retirement of existing loans on the BB&T building on September 7, 2011 and their consolidation into restructured Borrowing of $8,291,300 on that facility at a 3.406% interest rate. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

General Fund

Increase Appropriation Refunding Installment Financing Agreement $3,316,300

Increase Refunding Installment Financing Agreement $3,316,300

A. 2. Approved the purchase of (30) Lower Receivers for tactical rifles, (30) DPMS Mil-Spec lower parts kit with trigger and A2 grip FDE Mag catch, which are the inner workings of the weapons system and will be used for the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT), in the amount of $9,457 and increase the FY 2011/12 budget to reflect the appropriation of Federal Forfeiture funds in the amount of $9,457. The purchase would be made from Austin Precision Products, Inc. D/B/A LaRue Tactical, 850 County Road 177, Leander, TX 78641-2534. The Sheriff's Emergency Response Team is in need of new weapons for use in tactical situations. The current weapons being used are more than ten (10) years old and have begun experiencing mechanical problems. The purchase of this equipment will be paired with upper receivers which we have already obtained through grant funds. Once parts are purchased and replaced, these complete weapons will allow each member of the team to have the same exact weapons platform which will increase training effectiveness and weapons upkeep. The unaudited Federal Forfeiture Balance as of 06/30/11 is $1,237,545.82. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

General Fund

Increase Appropriation to Law Enforcement $9,457

Increase Appropriate fund Balance (Federal Forfeiture) $9,457

A.3. Increased the FY 11/12 Law Enforcement Budget by $46,216 to reappropriate unspent or unobligated funds from the Aviation Technology Program from the FY 10/11 budget. Participation in this program was approved by the Board of Commissioners at the July 17, 2008 meeting. This program was established to evaluate the efficiency, affordability and frequency of utilization of various aviation assets for various law enforcement agencies across the United States. These funds will be expended pursuant to the approved program regulations.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

General Fund
Increase Appropriation to Law Enforcement $46,216

Increase Appropriated fund balance (Aviation technology Program) $46,216

B. CONTRACTS

B.1. Approved the purchase of (33) MCT Toughbook Laptop In-Car Computers, from the North State Term Contract #204B and a 3 year warranty for each. Total cost for the computers and warranty is $142,186.95. The cost for each computer is (29) Model 31 computers at $4,390.15 which includes the warranty and (4) Model 19 computers at $3,718.15 which includes the warranty. The purchase of these in-car laptop computers are part of the 6 year computer replacement plan. Each MCT Toughbook Laptop In-car computer will allow officers access to reports, the ability to receive updated information from Communications, while enroute to a specific call and the ability to access criminal records and driving records on vehicles, individuals or property. They also provide valuable information regarding officer location for safety and response. Funds were approved in the FY 11/12 Law Enforcement Budget. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

C.1. Endorsed the attached Local Governmental Resolutions to accept the 2011-2012 Governor's Highway Safety Traffic Unit Grant in the amount of $68,218 and the Law Enforcement Liaison Grant in the amount of $10,000. These grants will be used for the Booze It and Lose It and Click It and Ticket It campaigns, pay for training and travel costs associated with these campaigns, as well as continue the efforts of our Highway Safety Unit. In order to meet the requirements set forth by the Governor's Highway Safety Program, Resolutions of Acceptance, for each grant, must be presented in an open meeting and signed by the Chairperson. The Governor's Highway Safety Traffic Unit Grant was budgeted while the Liaison Grant will have to be brought back to the Board at a later date for appropriation.

C.2. Adopted Resolution in Support Of Grant Requesting Assistance from the North Carolina General Assembly in the Funding for Site Preparation of Honda Aircraft Company's Proposed Expansion in Guilford County

C.3. Approved interlocal agreement with the City of Greensboro that will allow Guilford County to develop a public paddle access at the Brooks Bridge site on the Haw River. Guilford County is a part of an interlocal agreement to support and promote the Haw River Trail. The Brooks Bridge access site, while outside the City limits, is owned by the City for a drinking water pump station. Under the proposed agreement the City of Greensboro will allow Guilford County to develop a paddle access for the public as part of the Haw River Trail. Currently, the trail begins in Alamance County and goes east. Opening the Brooks Bridge as the westernmost paddle access will bring the Haw River Trail into northeast Guilford County.

C.4. Removed for separate consideration.
C. 5. Approved Minutes of the following County Commissioner's Meetings:
July 21, 2011 - Regular Meeting
August 16, 2011 - Special Meeting Triad Adult and Pediatric Medicine
August 28, 2011 - Regular Meeting

ITEM REMOVED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

ITEM VIII C. 4.

C. 4. Approved taking the Edgeworth building (232 Edgeworth Street, Greensboro) off the market and use it for office space for NC State Probation and Parole and authorized the County Manager to take such measures necessary to make the space suitable and to use any remaining space consistent with the County's CIP.

Motion was made by Commissioner Paul Gibson and seconded by Vice Chairman Shaw to approve Item VIII. C. 4.

Commissioner Gibson asked questions concerning the work space, specifically cubicles, office locations and cost. He also asked if other options were considered and if there was any buyer interested in purchasing the Edgeworth building located at 232 Edgeworth Street.

Sandy Woodward, Property Management Director, explained the location options said indicated they received no interest in purchasing the Edgeworth building.

Commissioner Winstead asked to abstain due to a perceived conflict of interest and the Board agreed to excuse him by acclamation.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 8 - 1
AYES: Commissioners Melvin “Skip” Alston; Vice Chairman Linda Shaw; Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman, Bruce Davis, Paul Gibson, Kirk Perkins, John Parks.
NOES: Commissioner Billy Yow.
ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Bencini.  
ABSTAINED: Commissioner Mike Winstead.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business to discuss.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Alston pointed out the Addendum Item X. B. under New Business for the Board’s consideration.

X. A. Set Work Session for October 20, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Old County Courthouse to discuss 911 Communications and the Guilford Center.
Motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Perkins and seconded by Commissioner John Parks to approve setting the work session for October 20th.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 10 - 0
AYES: Commissioners Melvin “Skip” Alston; Vice Chairman Linda Shaw; Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman, Bruce Davis, Paul Gibson, John Parks, Kirk Perkins, Mike Winstead, Billy Yow.
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Bencini.

ADDENDUM ITEM X. B.

X. B. Approved appointment of William Anthony Ward as Guilford Center Director at a salary of $110,334, including auto allowance, to be effective retroactive to September 13, 2011.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Perkins and seconded by Commissioner John Parks to approve the appointment of William Anthony Ward as Guilford Center Director at a salary of $110,334, including auto allowance, to be effective retroactive to September 13, 2011.

Bert Davis, Chairman Guilford Center Board, briefed the Board on Mr. Ward’s accomplishments that the Guilford Center Board approved the appointment of Anthony Ward as Guilford Center Director. He also provided the Board with information on Mr. Ward and urged the Board of Commissioners to approve his appointment and salary allowance.

Commissioner Paul Gibson, Commissioner Liaison to the Guilford Center, added that Mr. Ward is very capable, respected by his peers and an asset to Guilford County. He said he was pleased to support the recommendation of Mr. Ward as Director of the Guilford Center and urged Board members to do the same.

Commissioners Cashion and Parks were also very supportive of Mr. Ward representing Guilford County as Director of the Guilford Center. Chairman Alston concurred.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 9 - 1
AYES: Commissioners Melvin “Skip” Alston; Vice Chairman Linda Shaw; Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman, Bruce Davis, Paul Gibson, John Parks, Kirk Perkins, Mike Winstead.
NOES: Billy Yow.
ABSENT: Commissioner Bill Bencini.

Mr. Ward thanked the Board for their support.

C. New Business from County Commissioners.

There was no New Business from County Commissioners.
XIV.  HELD CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A REAL ESTATE MATTER OR POSSIBLE LAND ACQUISITION.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Linda Shaw and seconded by Commissioner John Parks to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a real estate matter, possible land acquisition and personnel.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 9 - 0
AYES: Commissioners Melvin “Skip” Alston; Vice Chairman Linda Shaw; Kay Cashion, Bruce Davis, Paul Gibson, John Parks, Kirk Perkins, Mike Winstead, Billy Yow.
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioners Bill Bencini and Carolyn Coleman.

The Board entered Closed Session at 6:45 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:10 p.m.

XI.  COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Kirk Perkins expressed his displeasure of addendums. He said he would like more time to consider matters so they can be given their due diligence.

Chairman Alston concurred but said sometimes timing is critical to an agenda item.

Commissioner John Parks announced several events that he recently attended.

Commissioner Gibson reported on the last Jail Advisory Committee. He requested the following items be included on the Board’s next agenda for consideration: official naming of the Guilford County Detention Center and something be agreed upon for identification purposes at the entrance to the facility.

Chairman Alston asked if there was a process for naming county buildings.

County Manager Fox said a committee at the staff level has been working on the naming of county buildings and said they were ready to have Commissioners input. She requested Commissioners participate in the process.

Chairman Alston asked for volunteers and the following Commissioners agreed to serve on the committee: Kay Cashion, Paul Gibson, John Parks, Billy Yow. (Commissioner Davis also agreed to serve a little later in the meeting.)

Commissioner Yow asked if Commissioner Gibson could have a selection of Sheriff’s logo’s available for consideration at the Board’s next meeting along with costs.
Chairman Alston asked if bond funds could be used for the committee recommendations and Commissioner Gibson said they could not.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

There were no comments from the County Manager.

XIII. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Steven Harrington, McLeansville resident, said he is in support of the PART service and urged Commissioners to continue their support of such a valuable service to him and thousands of other Guilford County residents.

Scott Yost, reporter, The Rhinoceros Times, congratulated Commissioner Mike Winstead on his recent marriage.

Chairman Alston announced that Commissioner Bruce Davis said he will also serve on the Building Naming committee.

COUNTY MANAGER FILED REPORTS OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AND CONTRACTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2011

County Manager Fox filed her report of out of state travel and contracts approved by her for the month of September 2011. (See copy in file with these minutes.)

XV. ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:20 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk