MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF GUILFORD COUNTY

Greensboro, North Carolina
March 17, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on March 17, 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 Bill Bencini, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Coleman (participating via conference telephone), Bruce Davis, Paul Gibson, John Parks, Kirk Perkins, Mike Winstead, and Billy Yow.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Brenda Fox, County Manager; Sharisse Fuller, Assistant County Manager/Human Resources Director; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Effie Varitimidis, Clerk to Board; and Crystal Maurer, Deputy Clerk.

I. INVOCATION
Reverend Brian Blomquist of Word of Life Foursquare Church provided the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Girl Scout Junior Troop #40895 led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Melvin “Skip” Alston called the meeting to order.

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR
E.H. Hennis stated he has designated this year as his payback year. He said for many years he has been concerned about law enforcement and government and he does not like corrupt politicians. He spoke about local politicians that he feels have treated him unfairly over the years.

Chairman Alston asked Mr. Hennis to refrain from calling people names and to be respectful with this comments.

Security officers escorted Mr. Hennis from the podium.
Jeff Phillips spoke about the current economy and his concerns with the Guilford County Schools’ budget. He pointed out that the school system has 10,000 employees but less than half of those employees are classroom teachers.

Ellen Whitlock of Senior Resources of Guilford County spoke in support of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments. She said many of their funds come through the Area Agency on Aging and they receive technical assistance through the COG.

Linda Reid spoke support of Guilford Child Health. She asked the Board to help reinstate funding for Child Health and she was thankful for the services provided to her family by Child Health.

Jodi Riddleburger spoke about the county budget fat cutting team and they were making great progress on the budget. She said the group was concerned about the spending habits of the government at every level.

Stephanie Clayton spoke in support of Guilford Child Health. She said she has personally experienced the care and compassion of Guilford Child Health.

Luther Falls Jr. spoke on behalf of Watchful Network and the recent minority small business expo they sponsored.

Sheriff B.J. Barnes introduced the four volunteer Explorers that were staffing the Board meeting.

Chairman Alston stated that Commissioner Coleman is listening on the phone and will be voting.

V. APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Alston asked if Commissioners would like to remove any items from the consent for separate consideration. Commissioner Winstead asked to remove Item A. 4. for separate consideration. Commissioner Davis asked to remove Item A. 7. for separate consideration.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, and seconded by Commissioner Perkins to approve consent agenda.

VOTE: Motion to approve consent agenda carried 9 - 2
AYES: Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Coleman, Davis, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead.
NOES: Commissioners Gibson and Yow.

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. Approved Public Health’s request to decrease the FY 2011 budget ($68,743) as detailed below: Adult Services: ($78,641)
   (a) DECREASED Other receipts $91,000 to reflect a reduction in anticipated receipts from Warner-Chilcott (US), LLC for participation in a clinical trial of medication for
treatment of Chlamydia. When brought to County Commissioners on 7/22/10, it was noted at the time that if participant numbers fell short of projections, we would adjust the budget accordingly. Actual participant numbers did fall short of projections. This revision adjusts the program budget from $120,000 to $29,000 (actual receipts/expenses). This was the Health Department’s initial participation in a clinical trial. We have learned much from the process and should be able to increase participant numbers on our next project (40-50 other groups nationwide also participated in the trial, many who had gone through this process before). No marketing efforts were employed since this was a communicable disease trial.

(b) INCREASED Other receipts $4,941 (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation FY 11 grant), INCREASE Fund Balance Appropriated $4,028 (re-allocation of $6,315 unused Foundation grant funds received in FY 10 less $2,287 reduction in County Appropriations for administrative support). Funds will be used by our Six Sigma Quality Improvement Team for studies of clinical processes in both Greensboro and High Point sites.

(c) INCREASED Federal receipts $3,390 to reflect additional funds to be received from the CDC (Center for Disease Control) for utilization in our STD/HIV Prevention Training Center Program. Health professionals from around the region and State (private and public sector) receive STD / HIV training through this program. Funds will be used for program operational expenses.

Community / Environment: $5,000
(d) INCREASED Other receipts $5,000 to reflect funds to be received from the National Association of County and City Health Officials for use in our Medical Reserve Corp. Program. Funds will be used for program operational expenses (hourly salary/fringe of the Program Coordinator and program supplies, etc.).

Family and Children: $4,898
(e) INCREASED Other receipts $4,898 to reflect funding from the N.C. Dental Health Endowment Fund for use in our Day Care Dental Hygiene Program. Funds will purchase toothbrushes, floss, educational materials for high risk children identified in local day care centers. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:

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<th>BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decrease Appropriation to Public Health</td>
<td>($68,743)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase Federal/State Revenue</td>
<td>$3,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decrease Other Revenue</td>
<td>($76,161)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase Appropriated Fund Balance</td>
<td>$4,028</td>
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2. REVISED. Approved the Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council’s award for 2nd year grant dollars totaling $118,414 in Federal funds, distributed by DJJD, for the Guilford County Gang Prevention Initiative. Services will be provided by the following collaborative: Court Alternatives, Youth Focus and One Step Further. Also approve 1st year carryover grant dollars to be appropriated to Coordinated Services in the amount of $44,218 and decrease fund balance appropriated by $44,218.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:

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<td>Increase Appropriation to</td>
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<td>Coordinated Services</td>
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<td>Increase Federal/State</td>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Decrease Fund Balance</td>
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<td>Appropriated</td>
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3. Increased the FY 10-11 Social Services budget by $1,017,102 to reflect the appropriation of additional funding from the Crisis Intervention/Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Funds will be used to provide emergency heating or cooling assistance to qualified low-income households to reduce the risk of health and safety issues such as illness, fire, and eviction. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

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<td>Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase Federal/State</td>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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5. Approved the Fiscal Year 2010 Homeland Security Grant award and increase the Emergency Services budget by $22,500 for the purpose of coordinating a regional disaster exercise to evaluate the ability to communicate and coordinate effectively during a widespread disaster. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

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<td>Emergency Services</td>
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6. Approved the Fiscal Year 2010 Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) Grant and increase the Emergency Services budget by $10,000 for the purpose of administering the HMEP Exercise Grant, which will fund a coordinated facility disaster exercise to evaluate community response capabilities during a hazardous materials incident. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

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<td>Increase Appropriation to</td>
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<td>Emergency Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase State/Federal Revenues</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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8. Approved the following Tax Matters:

Ben Chavis, Tax Director, submitted lists of corrections of clerical errors and assessments made in connection with taxes and assessments for the year 2011 and prior years, and lists were approved and ordered filed with these Minutes. (The Board also received a rebate release list of 10% and up.)

APPROVED BEVERAGE LICENSES FOR TAX DEPARTMENT

Ben Chavis, Tax Director, submitted lists of applications for beverage licenses, which he stated, had been approved by the Sheriff’s Department and the North Carolina ABC Board. The Board adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that beverage licenses be issued to applicants as shown by lists filed with these Minutes and that said parties be and they are hereby granted licenses in accordance with their applications effective upon the payment of the licenses tax, said licenses to be signed in the name of Guilford County by the Tax Supervisor or one of his assistants and delivered to the applicants upon receipt of the licenses tax as provided by law.

TAX COLLECTION REPORTS FILED

Ben Chavis, Tax Director, filed reports of tax collections for the period ending February 28, 2011 for the Greensboro, High Point, Jamestown and Countywide collections offices, and a back year financial report.
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT BY THE COUNTY OF GUILFORD FOR THE WATERSHED IV RECLASSIFICATION OF THE LANDS DEFINING THE GREENSBORO EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY WATERSHED

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro requested and received permission from the State of North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as “the State”) Department of Environmental Health to put an emergency water supply intake on the Haw River in response to the drought of 2002; and

WHEREAS, the State’s Department of Environmental and Natural Resources’ Division of Water Quality requires the reclassification of all watersheds that serve as water supplies to protect the quality of those waters; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdictions affected by this reclassification have actively sought to protect the Haw River and its tributaries, as evidenced by the Memorandum of Understanding to preserve resources within the 500-foot corridor of the River for development of the Haw River Trail; and

WHEREAS, State legislation (Session Law 2009-216 and 2009-484) and Administrative Code (15A NCAC 02B.0262 – 0273) in response to State requirements for the B. Everett Jordan Lake Reservoir were enacted to reduce the net inputs of nitrogen and phosphorous within the entire Haw River by 8% and 5% respectively; and

WHEREAS, that same Session Law 2009-216 and 2009-484 requires Best Management Practices and other load reducing measures to reduce and maintain these required nitrogen and phosphorous concentrations from new and existing development within the affected communities; and

WHEREAS, the combinations of land use practices required by Session Law 2009-216 and 2009-484 within the protected Haw River riparian corridor and the Watershed IV reclassification of the emergency water supply watershed adequately protects the emergency water supply;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF GUILFORD HEREBY RESOLVES:
To support the reclassification of the lands identified by the State Department of Environment And Natural Resources in July 2010 as being within the Greensboro emergency water supply Watershed from Watershed V to Watershed IV.
Nothing in this resolution shall affect or interfere with fulfillment of the obligations and rights of the parties hereto to manage the lands and programs administered by them in accordance with their other basic land management responsibilities. Nor shall this
resolution be understood to affect any lands outside of the designated emergency water supply watershed.

2. Adopted Resolution Supporting The City of Greensboro In Revising And Or Repealing The Jordan Lake Watershed Rules.

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF GREENSBORO IN REVISING AND OR REPEALLING THE JORDAN LAKE WATERSHED RULES

WHEREAS, The Jordan Lake Rules were adopted at a time before the depth and breadth of the current economic decline was realized by parties to both the negotiations and the enactment of this legislation; and

WHEREAS, Enforcement of the Wastewater Discharge Rule 15A NCAC 02.B .0270 no later than calendar year 2016 in the current economic climate will severely deplete the available resources of the local municipal and county governments; and

WHEREAS, The potential for the existing development retrofit rule requirements for the Haw River beginning in 2017 will place an undue burden on an already overtaxed economy; and

WHEREAS, Not all affected local governments have the necessary manpower to implement the required stormwater permitting under the Rules; and

WHEREAS, The Jordan Lake Rules are an unfunded mandate which place further economic strain upon local governments; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 70 (Rules Modification and Improvement Program) specifically states it shall guide the drafting, adoption, modification, and review of any rules and regulations; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 70 (Rules Modification and Improvement Program) specifically states that no rules shall not impose undue burden upon persons or entities who must comply with the rules; and

WHEREAS, The current economic realities require the Wastewater Discharge Rule implementation be delayed for four (4) years until 2020, and the initial monitoring of the Haw River, the potential Stage Two Adaptive Management Program, and the Stormwater Management for New Development requirements, be delayed until March 1, 2020.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners hereby joins in efforts to delay the implementation of the Jordan Lake Rules and to specifically delay the implementation of Session Law 2009-269, Section 2. (b), from 2016 to 2020, to delay the monitoring report and the potential Stage Two Adaptive Management Program set out in Section 3. (d)(2) a., from March 1. 2017 until
March 1, 2020, and to delay the implementation of the Stormwater Management for New Development requirements as specified in the Jordan Lake Rules until March 1, 2020.

3. Authorized the County Manager to submit the FY 11-12 Criminal Justice Partnership Program Application for Continuation Funding in the amount of $293,322 to the NC Department of Corrections, Criminal Justice Partnership Program, for the continuation of Day Reporting services provided by One Step Further, Inc. – contracted agency. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

A. 4. Appropriated additional sales tax funds in the amount of $89,474 (effective rate of 25.7%) from revenue generated in the amount of $347,530 for Robert S. Segal, CPA, PA for the auditing services of sales tax for the Finance Department and approve payment as set out in the sales tax audit contract. To date, including the amounts referenced above, the County has realized additional revenues of $4,894,654 and incurred fees of $873,865 over a 14 year period.

Motion was made by Commissioner Winstead, and seconded by Commissioner Perkins to approve Item A. 4.

Commissioner Winstead asked if the rate for this service was a standard rate.

Brenda Jones Fox, County Manager, replied the service was contracted out and it was a graduated scale for the rate. She explained the contract is fairly old and it was not bid when it was last renewed.

Commissioner Winstead asked about the fees collected and asked if it was possible to move the service in-house.

Ms. Fox stated that it is not feasible to do in-house since the firm goes to other companies and works to review how the they have handled sales tax with the Department of Revenue.

Commissioner Winstead asked how often the work is done. Ms. Fox responded it is done periodically and when the auditor finds something they bring it to the Board.

VOTE: Motion to approve carried 11 - 0
AYES: Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Coleman, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.
NOES: None.

7. Appropriated $25,436 from Reserve for Contingency/County Administration and transfer to Property Management/Courts to allow for completion of soil remediation at the former City/County Service center at 506 Battleground Ave. The site was demolished and the fuel tanks removed from the site in 2010 at a cost of $22,070 budgeted in Property Management. During the tank removal soil
contamination was discovered and 300 tons of soil were removed by the contractor at a cost of $44,243 which was funded though Reserve for Contingency/County Administration ($30,000) and funds ($15,000) budgeted in Property Management. Additional testing has revealed more contaminated soil and it is recommended that an additional 600 tons of soil be removed at a cost of $39,100. Funds to cover this expense have been identified in Property Management’s budget ($13,664) and the remaining balance ($25,436) will be transferred from Reserve for Contingency/County Administration. An Underground Storage Tank trust fund application will be completed in an effort to recoup 60% of expenditures beyond $20,000. This will bring the total expenditures for demolition and clean-up to $105,413.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis, and seconded by Commissioner Shaw to approve Item A. 7.

Commissioner Davis asked why they did not find this contamination the first time around and will this additional soil removal finish the clean-up at the site

Sandra Woodard, Property Management, replied that there is 900 ton limit the state and federal government can require the County to remove. She explained the first appropriation included soil removal and testing. She said testing will be done at the end of the soil removal to ensure they can close the site.

Commissioner Davis asked if after these 600 tons is removed the site can be closed. Ms. Woodard replied yes.

Commissioner Bencini asked if there is any shared liability with the City of Greensboro since it was a City/County service center.

Mark Payne, County Attorney, stated that the Underground Storage Trust Fund requires the primary party to do the work, apply to the fund, and then they will look at shared liability. He said it was his opinion that the City probably will have some shared liability.

**VOTE:** Motion to approve carried 11 - 0

**AYES:** Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Coleman, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.

**NOES:** None.

**VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A.** Held Public Hearing and approved the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s 2009-10 and 2010-11 Secondary Road Construction Programs for Guilford County.

Mr. Michael Fox, NCDOT Board representative, introduced the secondary road construction program for Guilford County. He complimented the County’s representation on the Metropolitan
Planning Organization with Commissioners Winstead and Perkins. He said the at-large representative on the Board of Transportation is Ronnie Wall, Mayor of Burlington.

Mike Mills, Division Engineer, presented details on the secondary road program. He introduced two new NCDOT staff members, Paul Ingram and Brad Wall. He said road program contains two years worth of allocations. He first reviewed the rural road paving priorities. He then presented the subdivision list and recommended dropping Service Road on the subdivision list in order to complete Joe Road on the rural paving list.

Motion was made by Commissioner Perkins, and seconded by Commissioner Winstead to approve the secondary road program with the exception recommended by Mr. Mills.

Chairman Alston asked for opponents of the road program to come forward. No one appeared to speak.

Commissioner Perkins commended the NCDOT and Mr. Mills. He also thanked the recently retired Lane Hall for his years of work with the NCDOT.

Commissioner Winstead thanked the DOT and Mr. Fox for their efforts on behalf of Guilford County.

Commissioner Parks stated that he is on the High Point MPO and they do a fine job as well.

**VOTE:** Motion to approve carried 10 - 0

**AYES:** Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Coleman

B. Held Public Hearing and Approved Liberty Road/Woody Mill Road Small Area Plan.

Les Eger, Planning Department, introduced the Liberty Road/Woody Mill Road Small Area Plan. He said Planning Staff including Bill Bruce and Trevor Nuttall, have worked on the plan for the last year. He asked Mr. Bruce to briefly explain the plan.

Bill Bruce, Planning Department, discussed the development of the plan over the last year with a citizens’ committee. He explained the plan has policies and recommendations for improvement to the area. He said the plan is for the area to be the hub of Southeast Greensboro.

Chairman Alston asked for the proponents to come forward.

Sandy Weathersby spoke in support of the plan. He said the citizens of the area thoroughly worked out the details of the plan and the residents are pleased with the results. He asked the Board to support the plan.
Dan Rogers thanked the Planning Department especially Bill Bruce and Trevor Nuttall. He said the plan is for growth in Southeast Guilford County. He said the participation was tremendous and he urged the Board to support the plan.

Marti Fein stated that the business community association is in support of the plan and she has not talked to anyone in the area that does not agree with the plan. She said they are excited about the plan and it will leave a legacy to their community.

Chairman Alston asked for the opponents to come forward. No one appeared to speak in opposition.

Motion was made by Commissioner Yow, and seconded by Commissioner Parks to approve the area plan.

Commissioner Perkins thanked the staff for their work on the plan. He asked about the zoning in the plan because it doesn’t necessarily reflect the current zoning in the area.

Mr. Eger said the plan was a recommendation and a guideline for future development.

**VOTE:** Motion to approve carried 10 - 0
**AYES:** Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.
**NOES:** None.
**ABSENT:** Commissioner Coleman.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**


Ginger Booker of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments acknowledged Commissioner Coleman as Guilford County’s delegate and Commissioner Bencini as a former Board member. She introduced other COG delegates including Larry Beck, Lexington Mayor Pro-Tem, Darrell Frye, Randolph County Commissioner, Ronnie Wall, Mayor of Burlington, Jackie Morris, Montgomery County Chairman. Ms. Booker stated that a large number of local governments have already approved the resolution for the merger. She spoke about current issues that the COG has worked on and presented out a letter outlining the services provided by the COG. Ms. Booker explained why the merger of the Council of Governments was important and timely for the Piedmont Triad.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis, and seconded by Commissioner Coleman to table the resolutions for discussion at a work session on April 14th.

Commissioner Davis stated that there are benefits to the merger but he has spoken to a few Board members that have objections. He said he will send the questions to Ms. Booker prior to the work session.
Ms. Booker stated that they would welcome a work session on this topic.

Commissioner Bencini asked what the timeframe was for the merger. Ms. Booker responded that March 31, 2011 is mentioned in the resolution.

Commissioner Bencini asked if any member jurisdictions did not approve the merger. Ms. Booker stated that it has been approved by every local government that it has been presented to.

Commissioner Davis asked if there was anything that was time sensitive about the merger. Ms. Booker stated that when trying to merge two organizations they would like as much lead time as they can get because of the budget and merging staff benefits and retirement.

Commissioner Yow stated that he believes a merger should reduce the amount of money needed to operate. He said they will need to justify the services and funds in order for him to consider this merger.

Commissioner Cashion asked about the number of governments that have approved the merger in the western region.

Ms. Booker stated that 16 of the Northwest member governments have passed the resolution. She said it is on the agendas for the rest of the members in March. She pointed out that 32 of 46 members in the Piedmont have adopted it and all the others are scheduled for action this month.

Commissioner Cashion asked why Guilford County’s dues will increase with the merger.

Ms. Booker said the County population is growing and the per capita rate will cause the dues increase. She said Forsyth had a different fee structure so their dues will not increase with the per capita dues proposed in the merger.

Commissioner Cashion asked if all member governments will have one vote each in the new Council charter.

Ms. Booker stated the newly merged Council will not have weighted voting.

Commissioner Perkins stated that COG works with aging population and he thanked them for the services they provide to the County. He suggested the new COG could have a higher minimum amount to join in order to help defray costs.

Darrell Frye stated that the minimum dues were set at $550 which was a compromise since the Northwest COG had lower minimum dues than the Piedmont COG.

Commissioner Coleman stated that she wanted to clarify one issue but was having difficulty hearing the meeting. Chairman Alston stated that Commissioner Coleman was having technical difficulties with the conference phone so he will come back to her later for her comments.
Commissioner Gibson stated that the Board could pick this merger to death but if they are not at the table then they are not part of the decisions made for the region. He asked to schedule a work session quickly to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Coleman stated her concern was not on how much they will use the weighted voting but she thought it should be available if they ever needed it. She said she felt that Guilford County was disrespected throughout the process because they did not have the opportunity to place their concerns on the table. She said she would save further discussion for the work session.

Commissioner Davis stated that because the fees were per capita so in his opinion the citizens of the municipalities in Guilford County were paying twice.

Mr. Frye said this issue has been discussed and the group decided that they wanted to treat all the communities in the COG the same to ensure fairness. He pointed out that there is vast difference in the services provided by each COG so it was a sharing of services but not really a duplication of services.

Commissioner Davis stated that they should all be able to receive the same benefits for the dues provided.

Commissioner Cashion stated that the per capita is all over the place under the old structure and Forsyth County comes out way ahead under the new structure.

Chairman Alston said he was bothered that Commissioner Coleman stated that she felt disrespected and the County will be paying the majority of the funds for the organization. He said COG officials should address the issue with her. He questioned whether the County can contract for these services at a lower cost than the COG dues.

Mr. Frye stated that he is the immediate past chairman of the COG. He said it was his choice who to appoint as secretary and he chose Commissioner Coleman as secretary and she was then elected by the Executive Committee. He said when the Committee was formed each COG appointed eight members and three of the appointees were from Guilford County. He said Commissioner Coleman did not attend the first meeting and was very late the second meeting. He said at the second meeting the group decided to select four members to continue to discussions and one of the members chosen was Bill Bencini who was a member of the High Point City Council and was about to be elected to the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Alston stated that he understood that Commissioner Coleman was denied a seat on the Committee because she was told Mr. Bencini would represent Guilford County. He said they can discuss these concerns further at the work session.

**VOTE:** Motion to table carried 11 - 0

**AYES:** Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Coleman, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.

**NOES:** None
The Board took a short recess at 7:30 p.m.

The Board came back into session at 7:50 p.m.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Heard Piedmont Triad Airport Authority Annual Report.

Chairman Alston directed Board's attention to the revised item V. A.(2) that was approved on consent agenda. He also recognized Boy Scout Troop #157 in attendance at the meeting.

Henry Isaacson, Chairman of the Piedmont Triad Airport Authority, presented a brief overview of Airport operations over the last year. Mr. Isaacson introduced Kevin Baker, Executive Director of the Piedmont Triad Airport.

Commissioner Coleman left the meeting by phone at 7:55 p.m.

Kevin Baker spoke about the mission and vision of the airport, the growth over the last 12 years, and how they are working to improve the passenger experience inside the terminal.

Chairman Alston and Commissioner Perkins thanked Mr. Baker and the Authority for their work to continually improve the airport.

B. Heard Presentation from the High Point Children's Cabinet.

Bernita Sims stated that the High Point Children's Cabinet felt it was important to update the Board on their progress and the work they have done with the Department of Social Services in High Point. Ms. Sims focused on Cabinet’s initiatives with the foster care program. She said they would continue to center their efforts on special services for children in High Point.

Commissioner Davis thanked Ms. Sims and the Cabinet for their work in the High Point community.

Commissioner Gibson stated that he appreciated the information brought forward tonight. He added he had concerns about what cutting the budget could do to some of the services in DSS.

Commissioner Cashion thanked Ms. Sims for bringing the report forward. She said they serve more than just children with their efforts.

Commissioner Bencini thanked Ms. Sims as well.

Chairman Alston thanked Ms. Sims and asked her to share their work with other cities.

Ms. Sims said they bring all the partners that work with these to the table to share ideas to impact the children in High Point. She commended the Department of Social Services for their work.
Commissioner Parks stated that Ms. Sims was a hard worker and motivator. He thanked her for her service to High Point.

C. Heard Presentation on the Progress of the Guilford County Farmland Protection Plan.

Wick Wickliffe, Cooperative Extension Director, spoke about the efforts to protect agriculture and increase economic development through agriculture.

Julie Elmore, Natural Resource Conservation Service, spoke about the development of the Farmland Protection Plan, the Piedmont Conservation Council, and she provided statistics regarding the agricultural economy in Guilford County. She added that they are holding two public hearings to get input from the public.

Commissioner Davis asked about the programs to incentivize buying local food.

Ms. Elmore said there are programs that are linking local farmers and buyers. She said the next presentation will discuss how to provide linkages through technology.

D. Endorsed establishment of Guilford County as a "buying club" under Piedmont Local Food through the 2011 growing season. This project will provide Guilford County employees and affiliates access to a web-based distribution system for local foods, which can be ordered on the internet and delivered to them weekly at one of three predetermined drop-off points. The three drop-off points for this pilot project are in areas with a critical mass of County employees and include 1) downtown Greensboro, 2) downtown High Point, and 3) near the Maple Street facility. The project may continue past 2011 at locations with enough participation. Pledged to join North Carolina's 10% Campaign, which voluntarily commits Guilford County's workforce to purchase 10% of its food locally. Piedmont Local Food can calculate the amount of food purchased locally for Guilford County. NO COUNTY STAFF TIME OR FUNDS REQUIRED.

Karen Neill, Cooperative Extension, introduced the 10% Campaign which is sponsored by the Center for Environmental Farming. She said explained how the program works and how they track buyers’ purchases. She said the County can participate in this voluntary program by making the products easily accessible to employees through a buying club.

Mark Wells, Piedmont Local Foods Group, introduced the Piedmont Local Food Effort and discussed the program benefits to Guilford County farmers and consumers.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, and seconded by Commissioner Perkins to approve endorsing the establishment of Guilford County as a buying club and pledge to join the 10% Campaign.

Commissioner Perkins thanked Cooperative Extension staff for their work on this program.
Commissioner Davis stated this was an exciting initiative. He asked about diversity in the program.

Mr. Wells stated that he would reach out to everyone. He said there are black farmers that are members but they are startup farmers so they do not have product on the site yet. He said he would love to work on outreach and he would welcome ideas from the Board and the community on how to expand to minority farmers.

Ms. Elmore suggested the County can pursue grants to assist with outreach programs. She indicated that foundations are looking for regional partnerships so Guilford County may look at working regionally to increase the chances of being awarded a grant for these efforts.

Commissioner Parks stated that agriculture is important to the economy and he appreciated the presentation.

VOTE: Motion carried 10 - 0
AYES: Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.
NOES: None.

E. New Business from County Commissioners.

Commissioner Perkins asked about funding for Guilford Child Health.

Brenda Fox stated that the clinic received the same funds as the previous year but it was paid in 9 months this year compared to 12 month last year. She said this agreement was worked out in the work session of the Board last year.

ENTERED CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS A LAND ACQUISITION AND A LEGAL MATTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, and seconded by Commissioner Bencini to enter closed session.

VOTE: Motion carried 10 - 0
AYES: Commissioners Alston, Bencini, Cashion, Davis, Gibson, Parks, Perkins, Shaw, Winstead, Yow.
NOES: None

The Board entered closed session at 9:10 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:21 p.m.

IX. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner Bencini stated that he was disheartened by the way the PTCOG representatives were treated.

Commissioner Davis provided a report from High Point Economic Development Corporation and encouraged the Board to look over the report.

Commissioner Cashion stated that she attended the NACo Board of Directors meeting and the NACo Legislative Conference. She said that every County in the United States is now a member of NACo. She spoke about the Justice, Public Safety, and Homeland Security Subcommittee meeting she attended and the upcoming legislation that may affect counties. She also spoke about a project with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that is attempting to put pictures with the names of those listed on the Wall. She also spoke about the new Guilford County Citizens Academy and requested to move the start of the program to the Fall.

Chairman Alston stated that if Commissioner Cashion felt the program would be better in the Fall then he did not see a problem with moving the start date.

Commissioner Parks said he attended the ACC Conference Hall of Champions opening.

Commissioner Perkins congratulated Eastern High School basketball teams. He asked the Manager to look into possible solutions for funding for Guilford Child Health.

Commissioner Parks congratulated the Southwest Guilford High School girls for winning the state championship.

Chairman Alston reminded the Board about the first district meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 22nd.

XII. ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Chairman

Deputy Clerk