MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY

Greensboro, North Carolina
October 16, 2014

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on October 16, 2014 at 5:30 PM, in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Bill Bencini, presiding; Vice Chairman Hank Henning; Commissioners Jeff Phillips, Kay Cashion, Bruce Davis, Linda O. Shaw, Alan Branson, and Raymond Trapp.

ABSENT: Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman.

ALSO PRESENT: Marty Lawing, County Manager; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Robin Keller, Clerk to the Board; Michael Halford, Budget Director; Merle Green, Public Health Director; Paul Lowe, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; Joe Raymond, Health and Human Services Director; Robert McNiece, Facilities, Parks, and Property Management Director; Bonnie Stellfox, Purchasing Director; Thomas Marshburn, Parks Division Director; Jeff Fowler, Security Director; Alexis Underwood, DSS Contracts Manager; Don Campbell, Emergency Management Division Director; and members of the media and community.

I. INVOCATION

Board Chaplin Chavis provided the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Bencini led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bencini called the meeting to order at 5:47 PM.

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Clyde Fitzgerald, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina, asked the Board to offer land to the Guilford County Food Pantry to enhance facilities which serve residents that are impacted by food insecurity and hunger.
Yvonne Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem of Greensboro, spoke to the need for services that support needy residents in the County and asked the Board to assist the Guilford County Food Pantry.

Anne Hice, of Pleasant Garden, commented on the successes of the AmeriCorps team that had recently implemented improvements to the County’s open space properties and praised the volunteers for their efforts.

George Hartman, Greensboro, addressed recent alternations made to the County's health insurance program and raised concerns with the associated administrative costs.

Jimmy Morgan, Colfax, raised concerns with the upcoming sales tax referendum.

Gordon Patterson, Summerfield, thanked the AmeriCorps volunteers for their service to the County.

Alice Patterson, Summerfield- former Chair of the County Open Space Committee, commended the AmeriCorps staff that helped to develop new trails on County Preserve lands.

Marie Poteat, Jamestown- Open Space Committee Member, thanked the AmeriCorps volunteers for their work to improve the Company Mill Preserve property.

Pastor Eric Sturdivant, Director-Guilford County Food Pantry, spoke to the programs of his ministry and then asked Commissioners for property to expand their operations to feed the hungry and needy residents of the County.

Commissioner Trapp commented on the operational needs of the organization and asked how many pounds of food that the Food Pantry provides a month to needy residents.

Pastor Sturdivant reported that the Food Pantry distributes about 15,000 lbs of food monthly.

Commissioner Trapp shared that he was working with County Manager Marty Lawing to address the issue and praised the work of Sturdivant and his ministry.

Lawing replied that the property in question was currently in use by the Facilities Department to house County surplus property, but stated that the operation could be moved to accommodate the Food Pantry’s request.

Commissioner Cashion asked where the property was located.

Commissioner Trapp responded that the site was near the Ag-Extension Center and was located in the same facility where People & Paws 4 Hope operates from. Trapp stated that the Food Pantry works to meet the needs of the most vulnerable residents and bolstering their operations would help to address food insecurity issues in the County.

Pastor Sturdivant added that his organization has been in operation since 2010, and has not received or asked for any appropriations from the County.
Sharron Hightower, Greensboro City Councilwoman, spoke in support of the request and addressed the needs of County residents. Hightower commented that Pastor Sturdivant’s ministry was working to serve needy residents and was an asset to the County.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclaim October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Commissioner Shaw read the proclamation proclaiming October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and invited Merle Green, Public Health Director, to address the Board.

Green provided insights to help citizens locate and utilize local healthcare providers.

B. Present Resolution in Appreciation for services provided through AmeriCorps Volunteers

Commissioner Branson read the proclamation honoring the AmeriCorps volunteers for their efforts to improve local Preserve properties.

Paul Podrawiltz, Team leader of the River 5 team, and AmeriCorps representative thanked the Board for honoring his team. He thanked the County staff and all those they have worked with while expanding the trails at Hagan Stone Park for their support and kindess.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. Approve an increase to the FY 2015 Health and Human Services Department (Public Health Division) of $25,982 as detailed below. Approve a $25,982 increase in Federal / State Revenue (Women's and Children Health /Immunization Branch) to increase community awareness, education and outreach to promote the new and revised immunization rules and requirements as indicated in NC Administrative Code 10A, Dosage and Age Requirement for Immunizations which becomes effective July 1, 2015. These funds will be used for communication plans specifically intended to promote awareness through broadcast and print media. Target audiences to include parents, healthcare workers, school and childcare personnel and supporting organizations. Educational and outreach materials will also be purchased. 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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<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>Increase Appropriation</td>
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<td>Public Health $25,982</td>
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<td>Increase Federal / State Revenue $25,982</td>
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2. Approve an increase to the Emergency Services FY 2015 budget in the amount of $60,731 to reflect the receipt of FEMA funds based on the March 7, 2014 Ice Storm and make payments to the Fire Departments and Piedmont Triad Ambulance Rescue that successfully applied for FEMA reimbursement funding. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDING IS REQUIRED.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was adopted:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
General Fund
Increase Appropriation
Emergency Services $61,850
Increase Federal / State Revenue $61,850

B. CONTRACTS

1. Approve (Revenue) contract, in substantial form, with Cone Health Foundation for North Carolina Health Choice Program, by and through the Health and Human Services Department (Social Services Division). Contract amount is $94,000.00. The contract period will begin on October 1, 2014 and end on September 30, 2015. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

2. Approve a Price Only Contract Renewal with no price increases and not expected to exceed the amount listed for FY14/15 with Tax Management Associates, Inc., Charlotte, North Carolina in the amount of $104,250. The contract renewal period will begin October 17, 2014 and end on October 17, 2015 under the same terms and conditions as the original contract, there will be one renewal option remaining. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

Removed from Consent Agenda

3. Authorize staff to enter into a construction contract with RP Murray General Contractor in an amount not to exceed $1.85M for the construction of the Hagan Stone swimming pool. Authorize staff to perform any and all actions necessary to finalize the contract details. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Accept the Tax Department's Beverage License and Tax Collection Reports for the month ending September 30, 2014.


3. Set November 6, 2014 as Public Hearing date for confirmation of the referenced Assessment Roll for the Forest Oaks Estates Subdivision regarding water and sewer.

4. Approve the following sets of County Commissioner's Meeting Minutes: 09/26/2014 - Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Meeting 10/02/2014 - Work Session
Motion was made by Commissioner Linda O. Shaw, and seconded by Commissioner Ray Trapp to approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

B.3. Authorize staff to enter into a construction contract with RP Murray General Contractor in an amount not to exceed $1.85M for the construction of the Hagan Stone swimming pool. Authorize staff to perform any and all actions necessary to finalize the contract details. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

Commissioner Phillips questioned the proposal—as the lowest bidder was not awarded the project.

Thomas Marshburn, Parks Division Manager, reported that staff had difficulties during the negotiation process with the initial vendor—noting that some of the proposed fees were not fair to the County.

Commissioner Phillips inquired if the original bid was not consistent with fair market rates.

Marshburn replied that Phillips was correct that the initial bidder’s proposed fees for certain project line items were prohibitive and further negotiations proved to be unproductive. Marshburn commented that the second vendor’s rates were more in line with the funding appropriated by the Board to complete the project.

Commissioner Phillips asked what the difference in price between the two vendors was.

Marshburn reported that the initial difference between the two firms was $40,000— for a lower maintenance pool. Marshburn added that after the project was valued engineered the second contractor was $25,000 less than the first bidder.

Vice Chairman Henning inquired regarding the use of value engineering in the project.

Robert McNiece, Facilities, Parks, and Property Management Director, explained that the tactic is utilized to reduce project costs while ensuring that the County is provided with quality facilities from contractors.

Commissioner Cashion noted that the project was being completed under the approved budget and commended McNiece and his staff for their diligence.

Commissioner Davis asked for clarification regarding the process that is used to review and evaluate bids which are submitted to the County.
Mark Payne, County Attorney, explained that State statutes require jurisdictions to initially offer a project to the lowest responsive bidder, but noted that if negotiations are unsuccessful between a vendor and a unit of government then the local entity can enter into discussions with the second-lowest responsive bidder. Payne clarified that the tactic was atypical but permissible.

Commissioner Davis asked if the initial lowest responsive bidder had an opportunity to work with County staff to address concerns.

Payne stated that an agreement could not be reached between the County and the original vendor.

Commissioner Phillips inquired if the project included a contingency line item.

McNiece reported that staff included a 5% contingency for the project.

Commissioner Phillips asked staff in future to provide additional supporting information to help the Board better understand departmental requests.

Commissioner Davis questioned if the agreement had any provisions capping change orders.

McNiece responded that change orders would only be allowed for unforeseen conditions and noted that any others would be driven by the County. McNiece clarified that staff worked to value engineer the project to generate a greater contingency for the improvement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeff Phillips, and seconded by Commissioner Linda O. Shaw to authorize staff to enter into a construction contract with RP Murray General Contractor in an amount not to exceed $1.85M for the construction of the Hagan Stone swimming pool. Authorize staff to perform any and all actions necessary to finalize the contract details. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Hold Public Hearing and approve up to $118,000 of County funds pursuant to N.C. General Statute 158.7.1 for Thomas Built Buses to expand its operations in Guilford County, NC. The Company proposes an investment of 6.514 Million to the local tax base and further proposes to create 236 new full-time jobs in Guilford County over three (3) years. Authorize County Manager to execute an agreement to provide public funds in an amount determined by the Board of Commissioners, not to exceed $118,000 to be paid over three (3) years based on the terms of the Contract. Terms of agreement subject to staff approval.

Vice Chairman Henning recused himself from discussion and voting due to a potential conflict of interest.
Motion was made by Commissioner Linda O. Shaw, and seconded by Commissioner Ray Trapp to recuse Vice Chairman Henning from voting on the request from Thomas Built Buses.

VOTE: Motion carried 7 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: Vice Chairman H. Henning.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

Lawing introduced the public hearing and reported that Thomas Built Buses was planning to add 236 new jobs, with an annual average salary of $37,244, and invest $6.5 million in new facilities. Lawing added that the additional capital investment would generate $97,000 per year in increased property tax revenues and noted that if approved the $118,000 award would be paid out over four years. Lawing explained that Thomas Built Buses had expanded in 2002 and received $225,000 from the County for creating 100 jobs and allocating $39.7 million for new capital investments. Lawing concluded his presentation by stating that the firm’s current annual County tax bill is approximately $330 million.

Loren Hill, President of the High Point Economic Development Corporation, commented that the project is located in South High Point and the expansion would create 236 new jobs, 228 welders and other production workers, and eight supervisors, with an average annual salary of $37,244. Hill noted that all the new positions would be added during 2015. Hill added that Thomas Built Buses currently employees 1,338 in the County and is High Point’s largest manufacturing employer. Hill then explained that the County was competing with an out of state location to secure the expansion and added that the High Point’s City Council and Randolph County Board of Commissioners had already supported the project. Hill then introduced Cindy Albert, State & Local Relations Manager with Daimler.

Albert provided an overview of her firm’s operations which employees 5600 workers in the State. Albert also noted that 25% of Daimler’s workforce in the US is based in North Carolina.

Christopher Redhouse, VP-and CFO of Thomas Built Buses, commented on his firm's operations and commitment to the County and asked the Board to support the incentive request.

Chairman Bencini opened the floor for proponents and opponents of the measure to speak. No one signed up to speak concerning the request and the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Phillips thanked the firm’s representatives and Hill for their presentations and stated that Thomas Built Bus is a quality corporate citizen, but shared that he would be unable to support the request. Phillips stated that the County should work to reduce property taxes over time-which in turn would support economic growth.

Commissioner Trapp shared his support for the proposal and opined that what is good for High Point- is good for Guilford County. Trapp stated that the added jobs would bolster residents’ personnel economies and would help to retain the County’s status as a business friendly community. Trapp added that as three other jurisdictions had allocated funds to the project- it was important for the Board to support the proposal as well.
Commissioner Cashion asked for clarification if all of the 236 jobs would be added next year.

Hill replied that the jobs would be added next year and the incentive payments, if approved, would be paid out over four years.

Commissioner Cashion commented that when she reviews the financials involved in the consideration- it is hard not to support the project. Cashion then spoke to firm’s long term commitment to the County and added that the expansion would be a good investment for the community, with new jobs and capital improvements. Cashion opined that it is important to support local manufactures and thanked Hill for working on the proposal. Cashion then expressed her support for the request.

Commissioner Branson thanked the presenters for their proposal, but commented that as he was philosophically opposed to incentives would be unable to support the request. Branson echoed Phillips’ considerations that the County should work to reduce the property tax.

Commissioner Shaw spoke to the commitment of Thomas Built Buses and shared her appreciation for their support of the County. Shaw then expressed her support for the request.

Commissioner Davis commended Hill on his work and Thomas Bus for their efforts to expand and employ local residents. Davis shared that even though he is not always supportive of incentive requests, he understands that the County must utilize the development tool to stay competitive with other jurisdictions. Davis stated that all proposals are fully vetted by both the Board and County staff and expressed his support for Thomas Built Buses’ request. Davis then asked about the increased use of robotics at the firm’s new facility and inquired if any positions would be eliminated due to technological efficiencies.

Redhouse replied that 236 jobs would be created and that no positions would be eliminated due to automation.

Commissioner Davis spoke in support of the request stating that the incentive would serve as an investment for the community and noted Thomas Built Buses’ proven track record in the County.

Chairman Bencini commented that the expansion would generate an additional $96,000 in property tax revenue to the County and opined that the incentive would be repaid, through increased tax revenues, in about fifteen months.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bruce Davis, and seconded by Commissioner Linda O. Shaw to approve allocating up to $118,000 of County funds pursuant to N.C. General Statute 158.7.1 for Thomas Built Buses to expand its operations in Guilford County, NC. The Company proposes an investment of 6.514 Million to the local tax base and further proposes to create 236 new full-time jobs in Guilford County over three (3) years. Authorize County Manager to execute an agreement to provide public funds in an amount determined by the Board of Commissioners, not to exceed $188,000 to be paid over three (3) years based on the terms of the Contract. Terms of agreement subject to staff approval.
VOTE:     Motion carried 5 – 2.
NOES:     Commissioners J. Phillips, A. Branson.
ABSTAIN:  Vice Chairman H. Henning.
ABSENT:   Commissioner C. Coleman.

VIII. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUSINESS

A. Receive update from Health and Human Services Director

Joe Raymond, Health and Human Services Director, shared that he had recently selected Heather Skeens, who currently serves as the Deputy DSS Director for Cumberland County, NC, as the County’s new DSS Director. Raymond added that Skeens would start work on December 8th.

Raymond then reviewed factors that impact DSS’s work load including the 2008 recession and recent staff cuts, which eliminated 53 full time positions. Raymond commented that efficiencies implemented by the Department have allowed staff to keep pace with the increased number of applications. Raymond noted that the Affordable Health Care Act is generating additional applications which County must assess. Raymond shared that his staff was also working to meet State mandates, one being the Medicaid Hard Launch. Raymond explained that his staff is working to convert current cases, about 50,000, into NCFAST and noted that the process is slow and tedious as staff must process each case manually. Raymond shared that he would bring in temporary staff to respond to the increased workload, but noted that the Federal government allows for a reimbursement of 75% for administering Medicaid—which would help offset County expenditures. Raymond reported that his Department was working collaboratively with community partners to inform clients of ongoing changes and added that improvements to the Russell Street Building in High Point should be completed by the end of the month.

Commissioner Trapp stated that he wanted to see improvements made to the Russell Street building to ensure that employees and customers felt safe, but noted ultimately the County should work to permanently move staff to a more suitable location.

Lawing replied that staff was working to address all potential considerations. Lawing reported that additional space may be available in the County Courthouse in High Point, but acknowledged that the heightened security found at the facility could inconvenience clients. Lawing commented that a short term solution, repairing and cleaning the Russell Street building, could be the best strategy to pursue until a more permanent solution is determined.

B. Update on Health and Human Services (Public Health Division) Strategic Plan 2014-2016 as required for accreditation.

Merle Green, Public Health Director, reported that the Public Health Department was currently undergoing reaccreditation and as such needed to have its Strategic Plan approved by the Board. Green reviewed the components of the plan and commented that her Department implements a two year proposal due to the ever changing climate of the healthcare market place. Green stated that her staff will continue to ensure that established services are continued while accommodating State and Federal funding cuts. Green noted that staff works collaboratively
with local foundations and charities to fill funding gaps and spoke of the need for additional school nurses in the County. Green then asked for the Board to approve the Public Health Division’s Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Trapp asked regarding outside food vendors.

Commissioner Cashion inquired concerning the health standards for these establishments.

Green responded that the County was working with its local delegation from Raleigh to address the matter. Green explained that outside food vendors do not have to meet the same standards of proper restaurants. Green added that many operators are non-profits and use exemptions to sell food in the County. Green noted that the restaurant community had raised concerns recently regarding the issue.

Commissioner Phillips questioned how the County was preparing for a potential Ebola outbreak.

Green replied that her office is in constant contact with State and Federal health officials, including the CDC, and was working with the local medical community to prepare and present trainings on the subject and to ensure that all providers had access to safety and protective equipment.

Commissioner Phillips asked if the disease could be transmitted through the air.

Green responded that according to current research, the condition could only be transmitted by bodily fluids, like sweat and blood.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bruce Davis, and seconded by Commissioner Linda O. Shaw to approve the Health and Human Services Department’s (Public Health Division) Strategic Plan 2014-2016 as required for accreditation.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve Guilford Technical Community College board of trustees request for commitment from the County to support and fund an annual operating lease for GTCC to occupy a portion of the Union Square Campus at an annual lease rate of $150,000 for ten years.

Chairman Bencini recognized Dr. Randy Parker, President of GTCC.

Dr. Parker introduced Union Square Board members and thanked the Commissioners for considering GTCC’s proposal. Dr. Parker shared that his staff has worked to reduce the lease rate and stated that the requested funds would help to pay for ongoing operational expenses.
Commissioner Phillips commended Dr. Parker and the GTCC and Union Square Boards for addressing concerns held by the County. Phillips stated that he appreciated their efforts and would be supporting the proposal.

Commissioner Shaw applauded Dr. Parker and his colleagues for their work on the project.

Commissioner Trapp commented that he was very excited about the endeavor and was happy to see redevelopment projects in Southeast Greensboro- and shared his support for the proposal.

Commissioner Cashion thanked Dr. Parker for listening to concerns held by the Board and working to address them. Cashion stated that it was an exciting project for Greensboro and expressed her support for the measure.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeff Phillips, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion to approve Guilford Technical Community College Board of Trustees’ request for commitment from the County to support and fund an annual operating lease for GTCC to occupy a portion of the Union Square Campus at an annual lease rate of $150,000 for ten years.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointments and Reappointments to Various Boards and Commissions

Vice Chairman Henning made appointments to the Health and Human Services Advisory Board.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bruce Davis, and seconded by Commissioner Ray Trapp to approve the appointments to the Health and Human Services Advisory Board.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 – 0.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Commissioner C. Coleman.

Health and Human Services Advisory Board

Appoint Dr. Percy Jones (term expiring 10/16/2016)
Appoint Dr. Steven Mackler, DDS (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Dr. Heather Oman, OD (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Dr. Ronald Komich (term expiring 10/16/2016)
Appoint Roberta Lane (term expiring 10/16/2015)
Appoint Dr. Jean Douglas (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Sandy Michael (term expiring 10/16/2015)
Appoint Mary Rakestraw (term expiring 10/16/2015)
Appoint Marcus Kindley (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Dr. Olga Wright (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Chip Cromartie (term expiring 10/16/2015)
Appoint Jewell Cooper (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Melvin “Skip” Alston (term expiring 10/16/2017)
Appoint Bobby Baskin (term expiring 10/16/2015)

B. New Business from County Commissioners

No new business was offered by the County Commissioners.

XI. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Phillips spoke to the work of the Human Services Department and commended them for their efforts to provide services to County residents.

Commissioner Davis reported that High Point was no longer enjoying silence, citing a recent newspaper article. Davis expressed his appreciation that the sound issues in High Point had been addressed and corrected. Davis stated that it was important for residents to be able to watch the Board meetings to receive updates regarding County projects and initiatives.

Vice Chairman Henning commented on the Russell Street building and shared his belief that the County should move workers out of the facility and into a more suitable location.

Commissioner Davis shared that in light of all of the difficulties discovered after acquisition and in hindsight, he believes now that it was a mistake to support the purchase of the Russell Street building and hoped future Boards would address the issue- to ensure better conditions for employees and the citizens seeking services.

Commissioner Trapp stated that many employees and High Point residents were concerned with safety of the facility.

Chairman Bencini added that the Building was not functional for residents or County employees. Chairman Bencini reminded the Board of the upcoming High Point Furniture Market. Bencini commented that the event has a substantial impact on the local economy- drawing in 80,000 visitors-twice a year to the County, supporting 27,000 jobs regionally, and accounting for over five billion dollars in economic activity. Bencini then encouraged all to attend.

Commissioner Cashion spoke regarding the Russell Street building. Cashion shared that she knew of past issues, but thought they were each adequately addressed and was surprised to learn of ongoing issues with the property. Cashion stated that the County should work to make improvements- adding that employees deserve to have better working conditions.

Commissioner Shaw agreed with Davis that the purchase of the Russell Street building had been a mistake and encouraged future Boards to address the issue. Shaw then noted that the Disappointments Room was being filmed in the County and hoped that the State would support
the film industry in the future. Shaw spoke to the economic impact of the film industry in the Triad and reminded Board members regarding the upcoming Airport Authority luncheon.

Commissioner Branson thanked his wife for her strength and support. Branson apologized to anyone in the LGBT community which he may have offended by raising concerns with the re-opening of a county department without consultation of County Management, but stated that he stood by his convictions. Branson explained that the County has set office hours for its various facilities. Branson added that he wanted to be provided with information documenting the full costs of keeping the Register of Deeds office open after hours to issue same-sex marriage licenses. Branson then encouraged citizens to educate themselves regarding the candidates and issues- which will be on the ballot in the upcoming elections in November. Branson spoke directly to the sales tax referendum and stated that efficiencies could be realized by the School System.

Commissioner Trapp thanked the Board for making appointments to the Health and Human Services Advisory Board and added that he was looking forward to serving as the Board’s first Chair.

Commissioner Davis commended County staff for addressing the High Point sound issue.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

Lawing offered no additional comments to the Board.

XIII. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

No speakers signed up to address the Board.

XIV. ADJOURN

The Board adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 8:14 PM.

_____________________________
Chairman

_____________________________
Deputy Clerk