

PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 4, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Jimmy B. Clayton
Kyle W. Puryear
B. Ray Jeffers
Samuel R. Kennington
Frances P. Blalock

Heidi York, County Manager
C. Ronald Aycock, County Attorney
Brenda B. Reaves, Clerk to the Board

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in recessed session on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' meeting room in the Person County Office Building.

Chairman Clayton called the meeting to order. Commissioner Jeffers arrived at 6:05 p.m. and Vice Chairman Puryear was absent until 6:24 p.m.

INFORMAL INTERVIEW PROCESS:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Blalock, **seconded** by Commissioner Kennington, and **carried 3-0** to enter Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of considering appointment of individuals through an informal interview process with applicants of competitive committee, boards, and commissions per General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(6).

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried 5-0** to return to open session at 6:51 p.m.

Chairman Clayton announced the Board would be recessed until 7:00 p.m. for the regular scheduled Board meeting

Chairman Clayton called the regular scheduled meeting to order, led invocation and asked Commissioner Kennington to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Board agreed to the agenda with the following changes:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Blalock, **seconded** by Commissioner Kennington and **carried 5-0** to defer item #6 – Solid Waste Advisory Committee Appointment until the next Board meeting.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Kennington and **carried 5-0** to add an item to the agenda for a request by the Person County Tourism Development Authority to use the county-owned building located at 217 N. Main Street for an office.

INFORMAL COMMENTS:

The following individual appeared before the Board to make informal comments:

Ms. Betty Blalock of 144 Tirzah Ridge, Rougemont thanked the Board for their hard work, research and review of issues before them and requested they consider the health of the citizens when making such decisions. Ms. Blalock asked county officials to negotiate for citizen opportunity to purchase from industry-related business, i.e. Carolina Solar Energy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to approve the minutes of March 14, 2011, March 21, 2011 and March 28, 2011.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Blalock, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to approve the Administrative Report for the Airport.

PERSON COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN 2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT, PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 10-16, 2011 AS THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD AND RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RECURRENT FUNDING FOR SMART START AND MORE AT FOUR PROGRAMS:

Chairman Clayton introduced Judy Batten, Executive Director of the Person County Partnership for Children. Ms. Batten updated the Board on the services and programs provided to the community. Ms. Batten presented the Board with the 2009-2010 Annual Report as well as requested the Board to consider adoption of a Proclamation declaring the week of April 10-16, 2011 as the Week of the Young Child in Person County and a Resolution in Support of Recurrent Funding for Smart Start and More at Four Programs. Ms. Batten introduced Jackson Elliott, President of the Partnership Board as well as other members and staff attending: Cindy Hicks, Judy Akers, Ronnie Bugnar, Maynell Harper. Commissioner Jeffers recognized Becky Oliver also attending.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to adopt the Proclamation declaring April 10-16, 2011 as The Week of the Young Child.

PROCLAMATION BY

Person County Board of Commissioners

On

THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

WHEREAS, the Person County Partnership for Children Child Care Resource and Referral and other local organizations, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating the WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD April 10th - April 16th, 2011; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to the need for high-quality early childhood services for all children and families within our community/state, these groups hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and

WHEREAS, the future of Person County depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today.

NOW THEREFORE, the Person County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of April 10th - April 16th, 2011 as THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD in Person County and urge all citizens to recognize and support the needs of young children in Person County.

Adopted this the 4th day of April, 2011.



[SEAL]

Brenda B. Reaves
Brenda B. Reaves
Clerk to the Board

Jimmy B. Clayton
Jimmy B. Clayton, Chairman
Person County Board of Commissioners

April 4, 2011

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to adopt a Resolution in Support of Recurrent Funding for Smart Start and More at Four Programs. Ms. Batten will share the Resolution adopted by the Board with elected officials in Raleigh.

***Resolution in Support of Recurrent Funding for
Smart Start and More at Four Programs***

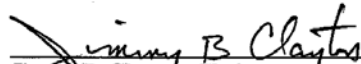
WHEREAS, the Person County Board of Commissioners recognize that:

- Our county needs the best, most skilled employees now and in the future – employees who can create new products, solve complex problems and motivate teams to excel;
- Research shows, children who enter kindergarten ready to succeed grow to be the book-smart, team-capable, job-ready workers who help businesses prosper and are the good neighbors who help communities thrive;
- Employees are able to focus on their jobs, be productive and not be distracted when their children are in quality care;
- Communities maintaining and attracting skilled employees, produce good customers and spend less tax money on expensive remedial programs;
- Public policies should support the development of the next generation of workers so that they can continue to innovate and lead;
- High quality early care and education allows parents to work and contribute to the Person County economy;
- High quality early care and education supports the early development and learning of young children and assures a strong future workforce for our economy;
- The Child Care Industry in Person County represents 40 small businesses and more than 152 full-time jobs that contribute \$9.36 million to our local economy;
- Smart Start and More at Four contribute to the local economy of Person County by supporting small businesses, creating jobs and allowing parents to work;
- Smart Start and More at Four help reduce deficits and create surpluses in our state by closing the achievement gap and producing better outcomes in education, health, personal productivity and economic vitality.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Person County Board of Commissioners support the NC General Assembly to maintain the funding for Smart Start and More at Four Programs in the State of North Carolina for the 2011-2012 budget and in future budget years.

Adopted the 4th day of April, 2011.




Jimmy B. Clayton, Chairman
Person County Board of Commissioners

Attest:


Brenda B. Reaves
Clerk to the Board

April 4, 2011

RESOLUTION OPPOSING LIFTING THE BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA THAT POSES AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT TO THE ROANOKE RIVER BASIN AND TO THE CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA LIVING IN THE BASIN:

Chairman Clayton introduced a Resolution Opposing Lifting the Ban on Uranium Mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia that poses an environmental threat to the Roanoke River Basin and to the citizens of Virginia and North Carolina living in the Basin noting a similar Resolution was recently adopted by the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Government.

Commissioner Puryear stated opposition to Person County endorsing the City of Virginia Beach study and referred to an article published in *the Danville Register & Bee*, on February 27, 2011, written by Robert Bodnar and Panos Diplas. Bodnar, Ph.D., is the C.C. Garvin Professor of Geology, University Distinguished Professor and Virginia's Outstanding Scientist for 2010. He is a member of the faculty at Virginia Tech's Department of Geosciences. Diplas, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech. The writers of the article entitled *Experts: Virginia Beach used old data* surmise that the conclusions of the Virginia Beach study is incorrect noting the most complete, accurate and up-to-date information was not used as input and certain assumptions and concessions were made. Commissioner Puryear commented the article referred to a detailed study is underway by faculty and students at Virginia Tech to evaluate the possibility that a major flooding event could release radiation into the local water system and eventually reaching Lake Gaston. Commissioner Puryear stated he contacted the City of Virginia Beach's City Manager to obtain information but did not get a call back prior to the Board meeting. Commissioner Puryear questioned the creditability of the Virginia Beach study.

Chairman Clayton suggested rewording of the proposed Resolution to not endorse the Virginia Beach study but advocated opposition to uranium mining until which time it is proven to be mined safely and not adversely affect the Dan River and Kerr Lake, both which would have impacts to Person County. Chairman Clayton noted support of North Carolina's proposed bill to create a study for uranium mining.

Commissioner Puryear stated until creditable evidence of a vital hazardous impact, he could not endorse. Commissioners Jeffers and Blalock recommended supporting the state of North Carolina's proposed study and would like to see the proposed Resolution re-worded.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to table consideration of adopting a Resolution Opposing Lifting the Ban on Uranium Mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia that poses an environmental threat to the Roanoke River Basin and to the citizens of Virginia and North Carolina living in the Basin until the next Board meeting.

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' DISTRICT MEETINGS QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:

County Manager, Heidi York stated the 2011 General Assembly is moving rapidly and legislators remain intent on adopting a state budget by June 1st. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) is hosting its annual series of District Meetings beginning April 6th and is seeking feedback from all counties about top concerns regarding the state budget as well as the top non-budget related legislative priority. NCACC have requested the Board to complete the questionnaire as a body and send a County Commissioner to present Person County's priorities and concerns at an upcoming District Meeting. Ms. York facilitated Board discussion to the following questions:

1. Please state with specificity your county's No. 1 issue of concern about the state budget. (Please tell us why it is No. 1, and how it specifically impacts your county, including projected revenue losses or additional costs incurred.)

The group agreed the State budget passing down to county unfunded mandates or consideration to use counties fund balance as a revenue source is the largest concern.

2. What have you heard from your legislators on this subject? (Please let us know who said what.)

Chairman Clayton stated he has spoken directly with Representative W.A. Wilkins and he is opposing such legislation.

3. Please state with specificity your county's No. 1 non-budget related legislative issue. (State why it is No. 1, and how it specifically impacts your county, including projected revenue loss or additional costs incurred.)

The group agreed storm water rules is the most concerning non-budgeted related issue. Others issues mentioned include proposed legislation related to voter identification, electronic notices, lifting bans to allow concealed weapons into parks and restaurants that serve alcohol, franchise rights related to high speed internet, counties may be responsible for charter schools capital needs and increasing the per credit rate at community colleges.

4. What have you heard from your legislators on this subject? (Please let us know who said what.)

Chairman Clayton has spoken directly with Representative W.A. Wilkins.

Commissioner Jeffers stated his willingness to attend the April 14, 2011 District Meetings to be held in Randolph County.

April 4, 2011

REQUEST BY THE PERSON COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TDA) TO USE THE COUNTY-OWNED BUILDING LOCATED AT 217 N. MAIN STREET FOR AN OFFICE:

Vice Chairman Puryear stated Board members had received a letter from the TDA Chair as well as he had been contacted by the TDA Director to be added to the agenda.

TDA Director, Margaret McMann requested Board consideration to use the county-owned spaced located at 217 N. Main Street for an office through an lease agreement, even if on a temporary basis. Ms. McMann stated TDA would assume expense of utilities, upfit including flooring repair and/or replacement.

Ms. McMann explained TDA is currently housed rent-fee in the Parsonage building on the Museum of History campus. Ms. McMann indicated the Museum Board may consider charging rent or utilities, and if so, would like a more visible storefront with signage. Ms. McMann stated the City of Roxboro's Sign Ordinance prevented her from displaying a sign in front or at the Parsonage building noting the ordinance limits one sign on the property and a sign is displayed in front of the Museum facility which also lists TDA. Ms. McMann confirmed to the Board that TDA has the ability to remain at the Parsonage building.

It was the consensus of the Board to direct the County Manager to meet with the TDA Director to create a proposition for Board consideration as well as review potential options related to the county-owned building located at 217 N. Main Street.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Clayton had no report.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

County Manager, Heidi York reminded the Board of the two upcoming Community Conversations meetings scheduled for April 12, 2011 at Roxboro Community School and April 26, 2011 at Helena Elementary School, both meetings starting at 7:00 p.m. and asked for feed back to the structure of the meetings noting a handout is forthcoming for review. Ms. York thanked the *Courier-Times* for the recent coverage promoting the upcoming Community Conversations meetings.

Ms. York announced Person County Employee Morale Pals (an internal employee committee led by John Hill and Rebecca Morrow that works toward boosting morale without any costs) has won the 2010 North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Outstanding County Program Award. Ms. York noted this is the second year for a Person County program to win such award.

Ms. York informed the Board that baseball/softball registrations have exceeded last year's 18 teams, 218 participants to 30 teams, 331 participates to date.

COMMISSIONER REPORT/COMMENTS:

Commissioner Kennington had no report.

Commissioner Blalock inquired if Person County would recognize National County Government Month focusing on serving on veterans, armed forces and their families. County Manager, Heidi York stated willingness to recognized National County Government Month and requested Board input for such recognition.

Commissioner Jeffers commented on recent meetings with the Farm Bureau Board and their agriculture presence in Person County as well as the meeting he, Commissioner Kennington and former commissioner Johnny Myrl Lunsford had with the Triangle YMCA representatives related to exploring options for possible collaboration for a recreation/Senior Center facility.

Vice Chairman Puryear had no report.

RECESS:

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried 5-0** to recess the meeting at 8:16 p.m. until April 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Roxboro Community School for the purpose of holding a Community Conversations Meeting.

Brenda B. Reaves
Clerk to the Board

Jimmy B. Clayton
Chairman