

**PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**October 15, 2007**  
**OTHERS PRESENT**

Johnny Myrl Lunsford, Chairman  
Jimmy B. Clayton, Vice-Chairman  
Kyle W. Puryear  
Larry H. Bowes  
Larry E. Yarborough, Jr.

Steve Carpenter, County Manager  
, County Attorney  
Faye T. Fuller, Clerk to the Board  
Brenda Reaves, Deputy Clerk to the Board

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The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in regular session on Monday, October 15, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Person County Office Building.

Chairman Lunsford called the meeting to order. Commissioner Clayton led in prayer and Commissioner Bowes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Clayton, **seconded** by Commissioner Yarborough and **carried** to add a Proclamation for Red Cross Week to the agenda.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarborough, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear and **carried** to add discussion of the Gag Order concerning landfill issues to the agenda.

**INFORMAL COMMENTS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Bowes, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear, and **carried** to approve the minutes of October 1, 2007.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

The following Administrative Reports were received and accepted by the Board by motion of Commissioner Puryear and second of Commissioner Bowes - Detention Center, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Marshal, Inspections.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT ORDER OF THE PROPERTY TAX COMMISSION  
- 2006 PRIMARY ENERGY APPEAL:**

Tax Administrator Russell Jones appeared before the Board to request approval of Consent Order of the Property Tax Commission-2006 Primary Energy Appeal. Mr. Jones stated that on September 18, 2006 Primary Energy appealed the business personal tax value of their property to the Person County Board of Equalization and Review. The County's tax value was \$14,878,175 for the business personal plus \$4,729,835 for the real property. The total tax value was \$19,608,010.

Primary Energy requested that the value of the business property be lowered to \$5,004,968. The real property value was not appealed in a timely manner, so the real property value remained at \$4,729,835. The Person County Board of E&R upheld the county's tax value. The value was appealed to the Property Tax Commission on October 24, 2006. Primary Energy paid the entire tax bill on January 5, 2007. The County, the North Carolina Department of Revenue and the taxpayer's representative met on June 21, 2007 and discussed the values. It was agreed that since Primary Energy had lost its "steam host", a different depreciation table should be used with a shorter useful life. The depreciation table changed the useful life from a 28-year life to an 18-year life, with a residual value of 25%. This change represented a taxable value of \$8,957,214, or a decrease of \$5,920,961. This figure was agreed upon by all parties.

Under G.S. 105-325 the County must authorize the change in value "to give effect to decisions of the Property Tax Commission on appeals taken under G.S. 105-290.

Tax Administrator Jones asked the Board to authorize the Tax Office to refund \$40,795.43 (\$38,486.25 taxes, plus \$2,309.18 interest) to Primary Energy.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Clayton, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear and **carried** to adopt the Consent Order of the Property Tax Commission and authorized the Tax Administrator to refund \$40,795.43 to Primary Energy.

**PROCLAMATION: RED CROSS MONTH**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Clayton and **carried** to approve the Proclamation for Red Cross Month.

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS,** *the American Red Cross has served our community by providing lifesaving information, training, and disaster relief to individuals and families for the past 90 years; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Red Cross is a leading voluntary agency meeting the needs to individuals and families affected by personal emergencies and disaster; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Red Cross is designated by the Congress of the United States in the Act approved January 5, 1905, as amended, 36 U.S.C. Sections 1-9, as the lead voluntary agency responsible for national and international relief in time of peace and to apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities, and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Red Cross has trained thousands in our community in essential skills such as: first aid and CPR, providing HIV/AIDS prevention education and disaster preparedness information; thereby, saving untold numbers of lives; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Red Cross is recognized as the leading voluntary agency to help families prepare for a disaster and meet the immediate needs of individuals affected by disaster, leading voluntary agency training families in first aid, CPR, HIV/AIDS prevention education and providing other needed services.*

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I do hereby proclaim October 2007 as

**“American Red Cross of Central North Carolina’s 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Month”**

*in PERSON COUNTY, and hereby urge all citizens to take special note of this observance by acknowledging and supporting the ongoing contribution of the Red Cross in helping our families prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies and disasters during this month and throughout the year.*

*(Signed)*

**Johnny Myrl Lunsford, Chairman  
Person County Board of Commissioners**

**DISCUSSION OF INFORMAL GAG ORDER ON LANDFILL ISSUES:**

Commissioner Yarborough stated that some citizens have asked why the Board of Commissioners cannot talk about the landfill. He said it was his feeling that there should be open discussion in the community.

County Manager Carpenter explained that a Special Use Permit public hearing has to be quasi judicial and only things which are presented at the hearing can be considered. He said it is difficult to separate opinions the Board hears in the community from those comments presented at the public hearing. While there is the possibility of a

scheduled public hearing, it is best not to conduct any dialog. He agreed that once the public hearing has taken place, there should be much discussion and dialog with the citizens.

Commissioner Yarborough stated his opinion that the Board should be able to speak and enter the Public Hearing with open minds. He said the more discussion, the better and that he would continue to discuss the issue with citizens.

Chairman Lunsford stated he was ready to move forward with scheduling a Public Hearing.

Commissioner Puryear agreed and made a **motion** to schedule a Landfill Expansion Public Hearing date of Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the County Office Building. The motion was **seconded** by Commissioner Yarborough and **carried** unanimously.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

Upon a **motion** by Commissioner Yarborough, and a **second** by Commissioner Puryear and **majority vote**, the Board of Commissioners of Person County does hereby amend the Budget of the **General Fund(s)** on this, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 2007, as follows:

<u>Dept./Acct No.</u>	<u>Department Name</u>	<u>\$Amount</u> Incr/Decr(-)
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>General</u>	
	Human Services	49,646

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>General</u>	
	Intergovernmental Revenues	49,646

**Explanation:**

Appropriate: New Partnership for Children Grant, \$49,646.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- Reminded the Board that it should act as a team and should anyone step out to do anything regarding any matter, all other members and the County Manager should be informed. All Board members should work together.

Commissioner Yarborough informed the Board that he received a call from Johnston Ambulance Service to discuss private ambulance service. He indicated that he advised the Service to present such a proposal to the County Manager.

- Asked the Manager to arrange a joint meeting with the Board of Education in order to begin dialog for Spring meeting.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- > Thursday – October 18, 2007 - Flu shots at FEMA through CIGNA
- > Friday October 19<sup>th</sup> - 9-1-1 committee meeting at EMS - 9:00 a.m.
- > Regionalized Emergency Management presentation – Tuesday October 23, 2007 – 12:30 p.m.
- > Appointment for pilot position on Airport Commission – asked if Board wanted to invite applicant early at November meeting. Board consensus: NO interview process for this position vacancy.
- > Strategic Planning Committee – October 25, 2007 in Auditorium

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS:**

- > Commissioner Clayton requested that the Manager ask Superintendent Cartner to make the same presentation at the joint BOE/BOC meeting that is being given to PTA's

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 a.m. until Monday, November 5, 2007. The motion **carried** unanimously.

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**Faye T. Fuller, CMC**  
**Clerk to the Board**

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**Johnny Myrl Lunsford**  
**Chairman**