

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

**FEBRUARY 1, 2010**  
**OTHERS PRESENT**

Johnny Myrl Lunsford  
Jimmy B. Clayton  
Kyle W. Puryear  
B. Ray Jeffers  
Samuel R. Kennington

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 regular session on Monday, February 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' meeting room in the Person County Office Building.

Chairman Lunsford called the meeting to order and asked Commissioner Clayton to lead in prayer and Commissioner Kennington to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers and **carried** to approve the agenda.

**INFORMAL COMMENTS:**

There were no comments from the public.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Clayton, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried** to approve the minutes of January 19, 2010.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried** to approve the Administrative Reports for the Airport, Surplus Property, Surplus Vehicles, and Tax Administration & Collections.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE PERSON-CASWELL CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY BOARD:**

County Manager, Heidi York stated at the Board's January 19, 2010 meeting, action was taken to allow Person County to enter into a partnership with Caswell County to establish a joint Criminal Justice Partnership Program. This partnership will allow Person County to draw down funds from the NC Department of Correction for substance abuse treatment for offenders that are on probation and parole in our community. There is an advisory board that oversees the implementation of this program. Committee members include the District Attorney, Superior and District Court Judges, County Sheriff, and County Manager, among other stakeholders of the criminal justice system.

The committee is supported by staff from the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments and Caswell County has accepted the responsibility to be the fiscal agent for the Program. Person County is being requested to appoint the County Manager and the Sheriff to serve on this Advisory Board. Ms. York requested the Board's consideration to appoint the County Manager and the Sheriff to represent Person County on the Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Clayton, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear, and **carried** to appoint the County Manager and the Sheriff to represent Person County on the Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **REPORT OF UNPAID TAXES:**

Tax Administrator, Russell Jones told the Board that General Statute 105-369(a) requires that the Tax Collector report to the Board the amount of unpaid 2009 taxes that are a lien on real property as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is simply a check point for the Board as to the progress that the Tax Office is making on collections and a way to alert the Board if collections are down creating a budget shortfall.

Mr. Jones reported Person County is ahead of last year by \$25,000 with less unpaid taxes currently than the same date last year noting \$1,646,189 are due to the County in unpaid real estate taxes which is about \$30,000 less on the same date of last year. Mr. Jones further noted collections are about one-half percent ahead of the overall collection rate for 2009, current at 92 and he anticipated reaching the budgeted collection of 96.5 . Mr. Jones stated he did not see any reason to cause a budget shortfall with the anticipated collection rate.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried** to receive the Report of Unpaid Taxes as presented by the Tax Administrator.

#### **ADVERTISEMENT OF UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES:**

Tax Administrator, Russell Jones stated a motion from the Board is required to order the advertisement and set the advertisement date for delinquent 2009 real property taxes. The Tax Office recommended the advertisement date to be March 6, 2010. The newspaper advertisement is required under General Statute 105-369(c) and can be placed anytime between March 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the advertisement is charged to the delinquent real estate bills.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Clayton, **seconded** by Commissioner Puryear, and **carried** to set the Advertisement of Unpaid Real Estate Taxes date for March 6, 2010, as recommended by the Tax Office.

**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW MEETING DATE:**

Tax Administrator, Russell Jones requested the Board to set the meeting date for the Board of Equalization and Review explaining the date will need to meet in the month of April. General Statute 105-322(f) requires the meeting date to be advertised at least 10 days in advance. The Department of Revenue recommends that the Board of Equalization and Review remain open longer than one day to allow tax payers a lesser restrictive opportunity for appeals. Mr. Jones proposed the Board of Equalization and Review meeting be held on April 6, 2010 starting at 1:00 pm to hear citizens and then recess until after the Board's meeting on April 19, 2010. The Board of Equalization and Review can adjourn on April 19, 2010 after the opportunity for any citizens present to be heard. Mr. Jones noted the Board may also need to meet between these dates if the number of taxpayers appealing their value is higher than in the past.

Commissioner Kennington requested consideration of the start time of the Board of Equalization and Review Meeting to start at 1:30 p.m. on April 6, 2010.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried** to set the meeting date for the Board of Equalization and Review to be held on April 6, 2010 starting at 1:30 pm to hear citizens and then recess until after the Board's meeting on April 19, 2010 unless additional meetings were required.

**FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 NONPROFIT FUNDING PROCESS:**

County Manager, Heidi York reminded the Board that a nonprofit funding process was created in current Fiscal Year 2009-2010 stating a policy was adopted by the Board of Commissioners on December 1, 2008 creating an accountable and objective process for funding nonprofit agency grant requests. Ms. York noted Person County Government and Person County United Way began meeting last year to consider partnering funding of nonprofits with a goal towards the creation of one seamless funding application. Ms. York stated that one application for both entities would be more user-friendly for nonprofits while creating a consistent set of criteria across the community for which nonprofits were being evaluated for funding as well as increase the accountability of the funding decision process. Ms. York presented the joint funding application to the Board for review and feedback. Ms. York admitted the application and process used by Person County United Way is much more involved than what Person County Government implemented last year which resulted in Person County's application last year being two pages to the proposed joint application at seven pages.

Ms. York noted Person County will post on the County website on Friday, February 5, 2010 the application approved by the Board with a deadline for nonprofit applicants to submit back to the County by Friday, March 5, 2010 at noon.

Commissioners Clayton, Jeffers, Puryear and Kennington recognized the proposed joint application may burden County staff administratively.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Kennington, and **carried** to approve the Person County Non-Profit Funding Application as used in Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Commissioner Kennington asked the County Manager to continue consideration of the possibility of a future joint application with United Way.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

County Manager, Heidi York presented and explained the following Budget Amendment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Clayton, and a second by Commissioner Jeffers and majority vote, the Board of Commissioners of Person County does hereby amend the Budget of the General Fund(s) on this, the 1st day of February 2010, as follows:

| <u>Dept./Acct No.</u> | <u>Department Name</u>                             | <u>Amount</u><br>Incr / (Decr) |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <u>EXPENDITURES</u>   | <u>General Fund</u>                                |                                |
|                       | General Government                                 | 51,389                         |
|                       | Public Buildings & Grounds                         | 550                            |
|                       | Economic & Physical Development                    | (48,270)                       |
|                       | Human Services                                     | 10,850                         |
|                       | Culture & Recreation                               | 29,288                         |
|                       | Contingency  | (3,119)                        |
|                       | Transfers to other Funds                           | 61,810                         |
|                       | <u>Person Industries Fund-Special Revenue Fund</u> | 32,522                         |
| <u>REVENUES</u>       | <u>General Fund</u>                                |                                |
|                       | Other Revenues                                     | 102,498                        |
|                       | <u>Person Industries Fund-Special Revenue Fund</u> |                                |
|                       | Transfer from General Fund                         | 32,522                         |

Appropriate: Property & Liability insurance payment for a claim filed with the NCACC Risk Pool (\$3,119); Interfund transfer from GIS to Information Technology (\$48,270); reimbursement of copier buyout costs for the departments that had leased copiers (\$62,360); and insurance claim received for vehicle in Health Department (\$10,850).

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Chairman Lunsford noted that he and Commissioner Clayton recently attended a Council of Government (COG) Board Meeting and received a copy of the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Audit Report dated June 30, 2009, which will be in the County Manager's Office for public inspection.

Chairman Lunsford shared with the Board a copy of the Annual Statement of Secondary Roads Paved during the 2009 calendar year.

Chairman Lunsford announced the Airport Commission will be meeting on February 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room. County Manager, Heidi York noted Board members may announce boards and committee meeting dates during a Board meeting to provide public notice.

Chairman Lunsford and Ms. York reminded the Board of the events scheduled for February 8, 2010 whereby the Board would be leaving Person County at approximately 1:15 p.m. to go to Durham County to go on a tour at 2:00 p.m. to view historical renovation projects as well as meet in joint session at 4:00 p.m. with the Durham County Board of County Commissioners. Chairman Lunsford stated the purpose of the joint session with Durham County to discuss topics of mutual interest, i.e. watershed issue as well as to gain a mutual understanding of both boards and to set the tone for any future meetings and partnerships. Chairman Lunsford stated he had spoken to Chairman Page of Durham County who extended an invitation for Person County to have dinner with the Durham Board following the joint session.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

County Manager, Heidi York stated she would be contacting each of the Board members for individual meetings to discuss the Board Retreat agenda.

Ms. York stated a memo would be forthcoming regarding adding additional roofing projects to the four critical roofing project list noting this item would be on the February 15, 2010 Board meeting agenda.

**COMMISSIONER REPORT/COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kennington had no comments.

Commissioner Puryear stated the Future's Economic Development Committee would be meeting on February 2, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Talbert Building Supply. Commissioner Puryear noted good news was forthcoming regarding CenturyLink.

Commissioner Jeffers stated his next Future's meeting would be held on February 4, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Clayton shared with the Board a copy of comments regarding the proposed Falls Water Supply Nutrient Strategy Rules from Mr. Jim Wrenn, Jr., and Mr. Glenn Dunn, Attorneys for South Granville Water and Sewer Authority, Granville County, the Town of Butner and Person County that is addressed to the NC Division of Water Quality dated January 29, 2010. Commissioner Clayton stated the North Carolina League of Municipalities has hired an environmental specialist to provide input regarding the proposed rules. Commissioner Clayton stated one proposal is for a Commission to be created to monitor sampling uniformly across the State.

Commissioner Clayton stated he and Commissioner Jeffers will be attending State Association committee meetings on February 9, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried** to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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Brenda B. Reaves  
Clerk to the Board

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Johnny Myrl Lunsford  
Chairman