



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

9:00 AM

Agriculture and Conference Center

BOC Retreat

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Commissioner Mike Dasher, Vice Chair Diana Hales, Commissioner Jim Crawford, Chair Karen Howard and Commissioner Andy Wilkie

BOARD PRIORITIES

[20-3377](#)

Vote on a request to adopt a Resolution proclaiming January 2020 as National Radon Action Month

Attachments: [Resolution - Radon Action Month](#)
[RadonandLungCancerFactsheet\(color\)Rev-Final \(1\)](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hales, seconded by Commissioner Crawford, that this Resolution #2020-09 Proclaiming January 2020 as National Radon Action Month, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Crawford, Chair Howard and Commissioner Wilkie

[20-3361](#)

Ground Rules

Attachments: [1--Ground Rules](#)

Budget Director Lisa West reviewed the ground rules for the retreat.

[20-3362](#)

Overview of Budget Process and Financial Policies

Attachments: [1--FY 21 BudgetCalendar](#)
[2--Budget Process and Policy](#)
[3--Chatham County FinancialandBudgetaryPolicies](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation by reviewing the budget process and financial policies.

Vice Chair Hales asked if the administrative costs are the same no matter what the fees. Deputy County Manager and Finance Officer Vicki McConnell stated the County has an indirect cost plan. Finance and the budget team work with the departments to determine the costs.

Commissioner Crawford asked which bank the County uses. Ms. McConnell said the County uses Sun Trust for checking. The County will be going out for bid for banking services next year due to the sell of Sun Trust Bank.

[20-3363](#)

Chatham County Schools

Attachments: [CCS Heads Up Document for County 2020-2021](#)
[Board of Commissioners Heads Up Presentation 2020-2021 FINAL, January, 2020](#)

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Dr. Derrick Jordan gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Chair Howard asked when the EC and AIG numbers were last addressed. Dr. Jordan stated they have't been significantly addressed in quite some time. In his opinion there should not be an EC cap of 12% of total enrollment or 4% AIG enrollment.

Commissioner Dasher asked if the school board is thinking about socio-economic issues. Dr. Jordan said the schools with a lot of poverty are still performing well academically. He does believe there will continue to be a great divide in the county and he is not sure how to solve that. It is a multi-level problem. They try to ensure that the funding they have control over follows the needs. Transportation is one of the Superintendents Association's legislative goals.

County Manager Dan LaMontagne asked if EC and AIG funding is also a legislative goal. Dr. Jordan replied no but they are always working on it.

Ms. West asked if the schools do not have EC students, do schools still get to spend the money? Dr. Jordan said he does not know that. Chatham County Schools Chief Financial Officer Tony Messer stated if it is less than 12% it is prorated.

Vice Chair Hales asked if EC is exceptional. Dr. Jordan replied yes. Mr. Messer stated this is the fifth year in a row the district has been over the 12% cap.

Chatham Grove Elementary should open March 5, 2020.

Chair Howard asked about resilience training. Dr. Jordan stated the schools have had a trauma-informed focus for the last couple of years. Chatham County is number one in implementing strategies around trauma compared to the eighteen school districts their consultant is working with.

Dr. Jordan said AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. In this program students who are potential first generation college goers are supported and taught how to approach school using the AVID methodology.

The Board of Education completed its retreat yesterday, January 13th and approved the Heads-Up document for the school system.

Commissioner Crawford asked if all the school districts in the state are facing the problem with the supplement. Dr. Jordan said yes.

Chair Howard asked what this proposal does to Chatham County's standing with the other districts. Dr. Jordan said they feel they would be in the top ten but probably

would be knocked out of the top five.

Mr. Messer stated 30% of teachers got a step increase so they had a slight bump up in pay.

The Board of Commissioners agreed by consensus to proceed with the plan proposed by the Board of Education.

[20-3364](#)

Heads Up Requests from Departments/CIT Update

Attachments: [Heads Up & CIT Update FINAL](#)

Policy Analyst Stephanie Watkins-Cruz and Budget Analyst Darrell Butts gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

The mini grant program would be for community engagement.

The Clerk identified money in the current year budget to fund the new Granicus encoder.

Vice Chair Hales asked if Chatham County is providing inspections in the entire county. Mr. LaMontagne stated yes. The Town of Siler City still handles erosion control, stormwater, and planning. The Town of Pittsboro also handles planning.

The Transportation Block Grant Study would be for ped/bike on the 15-501 corridor.

Vice Chair Hales asked if staff thinks the CVB would be linked with the Visitor's Center in Pittsboro. Mr. LaMontagne said CVB Director Neha Shah is working with Main Street Pittsboro to see how the CVB can link up.

Chair Howard asked when the hotel would go in Mosaic in Chatham Park. Ms. Watkins-Cruz said the hotel is expected in Spring 2021.

Commissioner Crawford asked if the incentives are only for the first hotel in Pittsboro or just the one in Mosaic. Mr. LaMontagne stated he will have to look into details of the incentives.

Vice Chair Hales asked if the community center at Chatham Grove Elementary will be available this summer. Mr. LaMontagne stated staff is still working that out. They would like the school to get settled first and then start County programs. It is possible something could be worked out for just the summer.

LUNCH

[20-3365](#)

Trends Affecting Next Year's Budget

Attachments: [6--All Trends](#)

Ms. West continued with a presentation on trends.

Commissioner Wilkie would like to see public safety broken out for the per capita expenditure chart.

[20-3366](#)

Community Engagement Update

Attachments: [2020 Budget Retreat Presentation CommunityEngagement FINAL](#)

Assistant County Manager Bryan Thompson stated earlier in the year staff began looking at community engagement and they would like to update the Board on what they are working on.

*Community Partners Analyst Hilary Pollan gave a presentation to the Board.
(Presentation attached)*

Commissioner Dasher asked where Ms. Pollan sees child programs. Ms. Pollan stated they are part of human services and this work is really more focused on external services.

Commissioner Howard asked if Ms. Pollan focuses on a theme that connects the organizations with the departments. Or does she look for opportunities to connect them as things come up? Ms. Pollan stated it is more connecting them as things come up. She will look into a repository.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Dasher, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Crawford, Chair Howard and Commissioner Wilkie