Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Monday, December 5, 2022	6:00 PM	Historic Courthouse Courtroom

Oath of Office and Organization of the Board

Rollcall

Present: 5 - Commissioner Mike Dasher,Commissioner Franklin Gomez Flores,Chair Karen Howard,Commissioner David Delaney and Vice Chair Katie Kenlan

Regular Session - 6:00 PM - Historic Courthouse Courtroom

INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

For the invocation, Chair Dasher asked everyone to think about Moore County and the senseless hate toward people you don't know. He said to think positively about the state we live and that there are more good people than bad. After the invocation, Chair Dasher led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dasher called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

OATHS OF OFFICE

22-4578 Swearing in of Newly Elected Commissioners David Delaney, Franklin Gomez Flores, and Katie Kenlan

Judge Sherri Murrell administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Commissioners Franklin Gomez Flores, David Delaney, and Katie Kenlan.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

22-4577 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

County Attorney Bob Hagemann presided over the election of the Chair.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dasher, seconded by Commissioner Kenlan, to elect Karen Howard as Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

Chair Howard presided over the election of the Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kenlan, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, to elect Mike Dasher as Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Chair Franklin Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner David Delaney, that the agenda and consent agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

22-4566 Vote to adopt a resolution amending the schedule of regular meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2022.

Attachments: RES Amending Schedule of Regular Meetings 2022

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, that this Resolution #22-49 amending the schedule of regular meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2022, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

22-4567 Vote to adopt a resolution amending the schedule of regular meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2023

Attachments: 2023 BOC Meeting Calendar Resolution

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, that this Resolution #22-50 amending the schedule of regular meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2023, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

22-4568 Vote on a request to approve a contract with Motorola Solutions Inc. in the amount of $888,655.64 for MCC7500E radio consoles and upgrades at the 911 center and authorize the county manager to execute the contract.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

22-4570 Vote to approve competitive bid exemption and sole source for CentralSquare Technologies, LLC in the amount of $43,225.00 for the CAD-to-CAD Unify product.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

22-4571 Vote to take and approve the official bond for Sheriff Mike Roberson as Chatham County Sheriff in accordance with NCGS 162-9.

Attachments: Travelers Bond for Sheriff

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, seconded by Commissioner Delaney, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

End of Consent Agenda

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

22-4576 Vote on a request to adopt a Resolution Recognizing “Bushel & A Peck Day” for Kenzie Scoggins

Attachments: Bushel and a Peck Day Resolution

Chair Howard read the resolution into the record.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dasher, seconded by Vice Chair Gomez Flores, that this Resolution #22-51 Recognizing “Bushel & A Peck Day” for Kenzie Scoggins, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Kenzie's mother, Meghan Scoggins, thanked the Board for the resolution. She said the song was passed along through the mothers of the family, and she would sing the song ‘A Bushel and A Peck’ by Doris Day to Kenzie when she was feeling bad. Chair Howard led all in attendance in singing the lyrics of the song together.

BOARD PRIORITIES

22-4573 Receive final Recommendations from the Tree Protection Working Group

Attachments: Tree Protection Recommendations Powerpoint

Tree Protection Working Group Recommendations

Tree Protection Working Group members Elaine Chiosso and George Lucier presented the item to the Board.

Ms. Chiosso said eight people from four of the Board's advisory boards compiled the information for the UDO consultants to use.

Dr. Lucier congratulated the newly elected commissioners. He presented a few of the recommendations from the group. The first recommendation was that the County hire a tree arborist as a full-time position with the County's Planning Department. He said a job description was included in Appendix A of their report. The second recommendation was that the minimum tree canopy coverage area should have rules. A table was included with canopy percentages for residential zones and non-residential zones. Dr. Lucier highlighted compact residential and compact non-residential zones. He explained the recommendation through the example that a one-hundred-acre property with a fifty-foot buffer would be ten percent tree canopy cover, and the working group has proposed twenty percent tree canopy cover. The third recommendation was based on the canopy size at maturity, which would require appropriate spacing. This was included in the report's appendices with a mix of plant varieties. The list of native trees and shrubs would come at the recommendation of the proposed county tree arborist, with no invasive non native species to be included.

Chair Howard asked where the percentages came from in the recommendations. Dr. Lucier explained that the group of eight members reviewed thirty ordinances in their initial meeting, and that created a framework for their discussions. The members looked at Orange and Durham Counties' tree protection regulations. The members also looked to Forsythe County, Georgia and Florida municipalities, Durham, Charlotte, and Fayetteville.

Chair Howard asked if this information had been shared with the UDO consultants. Dr. Lucier answered no, and the members hoped the Board of Commissioners would forward this to the UDO consultants. They wanted to present it to the Board of Commissioners first.

Ms. Chiosso continued the presentation with the fourth recommendation. She requested that the Grand Trees' four categories be protected and preserved: Champion, Historic, Landmark, and Meritorious Trees. She highlighted the Meritorious American Holly that is in the original Ebenezer church location. The fifth recommendation would be that under state law, the County could not regulate, but maybe develop incentives to consider.

Vice Chair Dasher asked if the members were able to figure out what percentage was lost from logging operations. Ms. Chiosso answered no, it was not split out that way. Chair Howard asked the county manager if it would be good to look to the County Cooperative Extension experts.

Mr. LaMontagne said the county staff will send the recommendations to UDO consultants.

Commissioner Delaney asked for a state reference point or state law to refer to for more information. Dr. Lucier said the NC Cooperative Extension has information on existing ordinances. Commissioner Delaney asked what the cost would be to

homeowners. Dr. Lucier said it was too soon to say. He said in 2008, the stream buffer regulations were strengthened, and the developer at the time said it would take up too much property in the Briar Chapel development. He said it resulted in nine percent of the total land, and there were no objections.

Ms. Chiosso said this will be important to our future generations.

This Agenda Item was received and filed.

CLERK'S REPORT

Lacee George, Deputy Clerk, read words prepared by the Clerk to the Board, Lindsay Ray. 'Commissioners, I regret that I am unable to be with you this evening to help celebrate this momentous occasion. I congratulate Commissioner Gomez Flores, Commissioner Delaney, and Commissioner Kenlan on their victories and welcome you all to our amazing Chatham County Team. I look forward to working with you all as you discern the needs of all present and future Chatham residents. Just a reminder that the CIP Work Session is Tuesday, December 13th at 9am at the Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro and the December 19th meeting will start at 1pm at the Agriculture and Conference Center. Please feel free to reach out to Lacee or myself should you need anything!'

MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Dan LaMontagne welcomed back Commissioner Gomez Flores and welcomed Commissioners Delaney and Kenlan to the Board. He said it is an exciting time. This Wednesday, December 7th is Leadership Academy graduation at 1 pm at the Agriculture and Conference Center. Mr. LaMontagne invited the commissioners to attend to see the graduates. He reminded the Board of the new commissioner orientation on December 8th and said the staff will feed them a lot of information, but the staff are always available to answer questions as time goes on.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Kenlan thanked the voters of Chatham and said it is an honor to serve. She thanked her parents and the volunteers. She also thanked the county staff for being so welcoming.

Commissioner Delaney said he wanted to echo what Commissioner Kenlan said and thanked the voters. Every commissioner serves every resident. He said it is an honor to take the oath in our community. He thanked everyone watching virtually and thanked the staff.

Commissioner Gomez Flores said he also wanted to echo Commissioner Kenlan and Commissioner Delaney comments. He is a member of the Maternity Care Center task force, and they have been tasked to make recommendations within sixty days. The recommendation would be to the leaders for their review. Chatham Hospital has had two new hires to increase hours of operation in January 2023. UNC Hospital was operating at fifty percent, and birth volumes are higher than usual. The task force has been given six more months to make recommendations.

Vice Chair Dasher had nothing to report and congratulated the commissioners and said he looked forward to working with everyone.

Chair Howard said she has worked with mature boards in the past and looks forward to the new, energetic board.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Dasher, Commissioner Gomez Flores, Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, and Vice Chair Kenlan

RECEPTION