

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 18, 2019 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Rockingham County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 18, 2019, 6:30 p.m., Governmental Center, Commissioners Chambers, Wentworth, North Carolina. Present were Chairman A. Reece Pyrtle, Jr.; Vice-Chairman, Mark F. Richardson; Commissioners Kevin Berger, Charlie G. Hall, III, and T. Craig Travis; Lance L. Metzler, County Manager; John M. Morris, County Attorney; Keli G. Watkins, Clerk to the Board; citizens and members of the local news media.

ITEM #1 – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pyrtle.

ITEM #2 – INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Bishop Dustan Martin, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Eden, North Carolina.

ITEM #3 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miss Charley Bearden.

ITEM #4 – APPROVAL – MARCH 18, 2019 AGENDA

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Berger seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the March 18, 2019 agenda with the following addition under Item #13 Closed Session: Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Consult with Attorney.

ITEM #5 – RECOGNITIONS

A) Mrs. Mildred Manuel – Outstanding Volunteer

Commissioner Pyrtle recognized Mrs. Mildred Manuel of Stoneville as Outstanding Volunteer for the month of March. The framed certificate was presented to Mrs. Manuel prior to the meeting as she was unable to attend the meeting in person. Mrs. Manuel has generously volunteered her time for most of the 85 years she has called Rockingham County home and is well known for her dedication to Meals on Wheels. She is an active participant in the Senior Games, contributes to a variety of senior programs and is one of Stoneville Library's favorite patrons. There was a generous applause from the audience.

B) Mr. Dylan Bearden – Champion Wild Turkey Caller

Commissioner Travis, with Board members by his side, recognized Mr. Dylan Bearden of Reidsville for being named First Runner Up in the National Wild Turkey Federation Grand Nationals held in Nashville, Tennessee. Joined by his wife Nicki and daughter Charley, Mr. Bearden was presented a certificate by Commissioner Pyrtle and a County lapel pin by Commissioner Berger. Commissioner Berger also presented a County lapel pin to Mr. Bearden's daughter, Miss Charley Bearden, for leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Bearden began his hobby at the age of five when his father took him to his first turkey calling contest and said if you're not having fun, you're doing it for the wrong reasons. Mr. Bearden demonstrated the turkey call and there was a generous applause from the audience.

C) Mr. Braxton Iliff; Rockingham County 9-1-1; EMS; Shiloh Fire Department First Responders; and Virginia Air Life – Outstanding Achievement and Outstanding Teamwork

Mr. Rodney Cates, Director of Emergency Services, with the Board by his side, recognized Mr. Braxton Iliff, Rockingham County 9-1-1, EMS, Shiloh Fire Department First Responders, and Virginia Air Life for the outstanding efforts made in working together to save the life of Mr. Iliff's brother, Shelby, on January 18, 2019. Commissioner Richardson presented each representative a County lapel pin while Commissioner Pyrtle presented each representative a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement. Mr. Cates thanked the team for their success and credited their individual talents, senior leadership, devotion, and commitment to work together as a team. There was a large applause from the audience.

D) Mr. Steve Evans, EMS Paramedic & Mr. Damion Lee, EMS Emergency Medical Technician
Mr. Rodney Cates, with the Board by his side, recognized Paramedic Steve Evans and EMT Damion Lee, who was unable to attend. On November 18, 2018, Mr. Evans and Mr. Lee were responding to an emergency call with lights and siren when the ambulance they were driving was hit by a passenger vehicle causing injuries to all parties involved. Being injured, both EMS members immediately exited the totaled EMS Unit, assessed their own injuries, and then rendered assistance to the seriously injured driver of the passenger vehicle. Both Mr. Evans and Mr. Lee were commended for their dedication to duty after being injured in the accident. Commissioner Pyrtle presented to Mr. Evans a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement and Commissioner Richardson presented him with a County lapel pin. There was a large applause from the audience.

ITEM #6 – APPROVAL – CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

ITEM #6(A) – APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 28, FEBRUARY 4 & 18, 2019

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes of January 28, February 4 and February 18, 2019 as presented.

ITEM #6(B) – ANIMAL SHELTER – BUDGET REVISION

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the budget revision to increase the Animal Shelter Budget \$6,000 due to donations received over current budget which will be used for various Animal Shelter needs. A copy of revision shall follow these minutes for reference.

ITEM #6(C)(1) – TAX RECONCILIATION REPORT – FEBRUARY 2019

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the February 2019 Tax Reconciliation Report. A copy of report shall be filed with the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM #6(C)(2) – TAX REFUND – CANDACE HUFFMAN

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve a Refund in the amount of \$153 to Candace Huffman due to situs error.

ITEM #6(D) – REVISED PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT – SANS TECHNICAL FIBERS

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve revised Performance Agreement for Sans Technical Fibers previously approved at the January 22, 2019 Board meeting. A copy of same shall be filed with the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM #6(E) – PROCLAMATION – SPRING LITTER SWEEP DESIGNATED APRIL 13-27, 2019

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve a Proclamation designating April 13-27, 2019 as Spring Litter Sweep in Rockingham County. A copy of Proclamation shall be filed with the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM #7 – PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared to speak during Public Comment.

ITEM #8 – PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MARCH 2019 SOCIAL WORK MONTH

After County Manager Lance Metzler read the Proclamation, Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Richardson seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the Proclamation designating March 2019 as Social Work Month in Rockingham County. Ms. Felissa Ferrell, Director of Health & Human Services, invited the Board to attend a luncheon on March 29, 2019, honoring Social Workers in Rockingham County. A copy of Proclamation shall be filed with the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM #9(A) – APPOINTMENT – JURY COMMISSION

Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to reappoint the following individual to serve on the Jury Commission; such term to expire June 30, 2021:

MS. VICKI HOBBS
504 Lawndale Drive
Reidsville, NC

ITEM #9(B) – APPOINTMENT – ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Richardson seconded and the vote was unanimous to reappoint the following individual to serve on the Rockingham Community College Board of Trustees; such term to expire June 30, 2023:

MR. C. GRAYSON WHITT
304 Maplewood Drive
Eden, NC

ITEM #9(C) – APPOINTMENT – AIRPORT AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to reappoint the following individual to serve on the Airport Authority Advisory Board; such term to expire June 30, 2022:

MR. TIMOTHY R. WYATT
272 Old Barn Trail
Stoneville, NC

ITEM #9(D) – RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING ZERO TOLERANCE FOR LITTER

After County Manager Lance Metzler read the Resolution, Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Hall seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution Supporting Zero Tolerance for Litter in Rockingham County. A copy of Resolution shall be filed with the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM #9(E) – APPROVAL – BYLAWS – LITTER PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

After Board discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, Commissioner Berger seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the ByLaws of the Litter Prevention Advisory Committee. A copy of ByLaws shall follow these minutes for reference.

ITEM #10 – BUDGET REVISION – REPLACE TOTAL LOSS AMBULANCE

Mr. Rodney Cates gave a summary of damage inflicted upon a County Ambulance due to a collision by a passenger vehicle on November 18, 2018. The Board discussed the feasibility of repairing the ambulance versus replacement. After discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, Commissioner Berger seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the appropriation of \$63,902 from General Fund Balance to replace the total loss ambulance. A copy of Budget Revision shall follow these minutes for reference.

ITEM #11 – NEW BUSINESS

No new business presented.

ITEM #12 – COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

A) Commissioner Travis – No Comment

B) Commissioner Richardson

Thanks to everybody for being here. It's been a pleasure to be back in the country. I had another pleasure to be in Israel for about ten days and I felt compelled to say something about it. Folks, we need to be very grateful for where we live. I was very impressed with the Israelis, very professional, and I felt safe. But, being a target of everybody that lives around you, and I mean a serious target from people that want to kill you, it's got to be most discomfoting. What impressed me beyond all of the religious sites I got to see and walk where the Christian religion and the Jewish religion and the Muslim religion all congregate, I was impressed with how loyal the people were and how responsible they were. It kind of reminded me of John Kennedy's statement "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country". Over and over again, I saw that. There were lots of firearms, automatic firearms, but all being handled responsibly. I would encourage anyone that gets a chance, to visit Israel; otherwise, study up on it. I think Americans can learn a lot by comparing our way of life to what they have over there. I'm glad to be in Rockingham County.

C) Commissioner Hall

Over the last several meetings, we've appointed several members to several boards. There have been folks that weren't selected to those boards as well. I'd like to say thank you to all those that applied. We appreciate your participation and eagerness to serve. It's very important for people to participate in their own government. We appreciate every one of those who applied and we'd like to encourage those not appointed to continue applying. We'd love to have you on a board and maybe you'll be successful in the near future. Thank you for all those in attendance tonight. We appreciate your participation.

D) Commissioner Berger

I want to again thank those crews from EMS, the Shiloh Fire Department, and the First Responders. I know you do not perform your duties for recognition, but for the simple fact that you enjoy helping others. We really appreciate the example that you set for the rest of the County. We appreciate what you do and thanks for coming out tonight so we could recognize you. Also, we appreciate Dylan for coming out tonight and placing second in the nation. That's great. And a special thank you to your daughter Charley as well.

E) Commissioner Pyrtle

I'd like to recognize our elected officials here tonight: Mr. Doug Isley of the School Board, Ms. Toni Reece and Ms. Bonnie Purgason from the Board of Elections. Thank you for coming out tonight. Thank you to the Emergency Management folks for coming out tonight. I echo what Commissioner Berger said. I've been out on those calls and I always loved to hear the sound of an ambulance coming because I knew that they knew a lot more about what I was trying to do to help. Thank you, guys. We appreciate what you do and why you do it. I had the opportunity with Dr. Mable Scott to do a promotion

for the litter program that we've got. We're moving along with that program. I was fortunate enough to have representatives from all municipalities join me today at the Mayo River State Park, and we did our first Public Service Announcement talking about this program we're going to roll out County-wide. We're rolling it out, but the success of the program is the citizens of Rockingham County. We've got to change behavior. We can send out folks to pick up trash, we can pick up trash; we can adopt a street and pick up trash. We can do all that; but we have to change the behavior and let folks know it's not okay to throw litter in our community. We have got to effect that change, and we're going to do it. We've got a commitment, not just from the municipalities, but also from law enforcement and the district attorney. We'd much rather have compliance than the consequences that go along with littering. Rockingham County is a great place to live, work and play. We want to make it a beautiful place to live, work and play. We want to make it inviting to those who are thinking about coming to our community; whether it's for economic growth or someone who wants to relocate to a nice location. So get ready, you're going to see a lot of it; folks out there picking up trash, and we appreciate the participation. If you're not part of a group out there picking up trash, we can sure make that happen. Thank you all for being here tonight.

ITEM #13 – CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Richardson moved, Commissioner Berger seconded and the vote was unanimous to go into Closed Session at 7:18 p.m. pursuant to:
N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) Discuss Personnel.

Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Richardson seconded and the vote was unanimous to come out of Closed Session at 7:50 p.m.

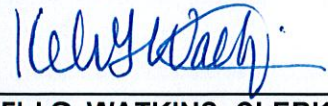
Commissioner Berger moved, Commissioner Richardson seconded and the vote was unanimous to recess this meeting at 7:51 p.m. until March 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., Morehead High School, to review their security system.

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED,


A. REECE PYRTLE, JR., CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


KELI G. WATKINS, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS