

MINUTES
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2005

The Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners and the Planning Board met in a joint session on March 7, 2005 at the Citizens Center, Commissioners Room, Third Floor, 115 West Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting at 6:30 PM.

Commissioners Present:

Thomas R. Anderson, PE, Chairman
Carrol D. Mitchem, Vice Chairman
James Buddy Funderburk
Marie Moore
Alex E. Patton

Others Present:

Stan B. Kiser, County Manager
Jeffrey A. Taylor, County Attorney
Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order: Chairman Anderson called the March 7, 2005 meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to order.

Invocation: Commissioner Moore gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda: Chairman Anderson presented the agenda for the Board's approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Moore , the Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

AGENDA

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 7, 2005

6:30 PM	Call to Order
6:31 PM	Invocation
6:32 PM	Pledge of Allegiance

1. 6:34 PM Adoption of Agenda
2. 6:35 PM Approval of Minutes
 - January 31, 2005
 - February 21, 2005
3. 6:40 PM Consent Agenda
 - Request for Sponsored Group Status
 - Salem Baptist Church
 - Lincoln County Concert Association
 - Tax Requests for Refunds – More Than \$100
 - February 7 – 20, 2005
 - Tax Requests for Releases – More Than \$100
 - January 16 – February 15, 2005
 - Budget Adjustment 65
4. 6:45 PM Request from Special Olympics
5. 6:55 PM Proclamation Concerning “Walls of Honor and the Patriots Star”
6. 7:00 PM Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation
7. 7:05 PM Elimination of Deferral for Capacity Development Fees – Steve Gilbert
8. 7:15 PM Discounting of Capacity Development Fees for County Departments - Steve Gilbert
9. 7:25 PM Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs) for Schools – Dr. Jim Watson
10. 7:40 PM Other Business

Adjourn

Approval of Minutes – January 31, 2005 and February 21, 2005: Chairman Anderson presented the minutes of the January 31, 2005 and February 21, 2005 meetings for approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Funderburk, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 31, 2005 and February 21, 2005 minutes.

Consent Agenda: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Mitchem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- Request Sponsored Group Status
 - Salem Baptist Church
 - Lincoln County Concert Association

Tax Requests for Releases – More Than \$100

January 16 – February 15, 2005

NAME	YEAR	A/C NO	AMOUNT
Baxter, Gail	2004	0156690	\$ 144.69
Brooks, Mary Jane	2004	0150068	\$ 154.33
Corriher, Thomas William	2004	0138511	\$ 108.79
Dellinger, David Lee	2004	0130183	\$ 133.43
Dixon, Paula Caulder	2004	0173839	\$ 142.78
Doster, Donald Ray	2004	0181092	\$ 253.85
Fink, Susan Aynsley			
Crowe	2004	0171456	\$ 109.55
Friday, Earl Ervin III	2004	0169027	\$ 136.76
Herndon, Charles Sullie	2004	0137109	\$ 111.63
Huffman, Katherine Short	2004	0175070	\$ 115.71
Long, Anthony Todd	2004	0170272	\$ 104.39
McManus, Ronald Frank	2004	0174681	\$ 225.51
Meador, Karla Y.	2004	0141134	\$ 158.44
Obrien, Patrick Joseph	2004	0181031	\$ 686.94
Phillips, John Thomas	2004	0181101	\$ 146.44
Pilkington, Kelly Marie	2004	0181354	\$ 190.69
Richardson, Michael			
Darrin	2004	0126639	\$ 108.19
Spears, Monty Tim	2003/04	0154126	\$ 155.51
Springborn, Heinz James	2004	0162735	\$ 179.00
Stringfield, Tammy Lynn	2003/04	0174754	\$ 105.26
Town Square Ford Inc.	2004	0089603	\$ 284.61
Wagner, Joshua Charles	2004	0115692	\$ 265.14
Walkinshaw, Robert T.	2004	0177331	\$ 207.68
		TOTAL	\$ 4,229.32

NAME	YEAR	A/C NO	AMOUNT
Bailey, Delta (Hamrick)	2004	0093350	\$ 147.40
Bell, Kenneth	2004	0177642	\$ 324.45
Bostick, Michael	2004	0177449	\$ 260.60
Brittain, Tony Allen II	2003	0083074	\$ 116.01
Carolina Aviation	1999 2000-	0069813	\$ 468.37
Clark, Doil (Heirs of)	04	40321	\$ 561.00
Clark, Olden D.	2004	21339	\$ 133.00
Gore, Alan Jr.	2002	0130196	\$ 155.14

Hollifield, Michael S.	2004	15729	\$ 2,222.10
Hoyle, Eugene	2004	0179959	\$ 755.13
Keever, Susie Johnson	04	35955	\$ 212.79
Laboratory United			
Methodist	2004	0168094	\$ 301.90
Lopez, Samuel Camacho	2004	0159086	\$ 147.40
Mineroldi, Mark	2004	0161918	\$ 270.50
Mooneyham, Asa B.	2004	0117125	\$ 278.97
NC Dept. of Transportation	2004	0127782	\$ 345.00
Ohlde, Tim	2004	0177694	\$ 192.39
Piedmont Companies Inc.	2004	0129465	\$ 109.17
Pollock, Susan L.	2004	0170755	\$ 146.29
RSI Home Products Inc.	2004	0128652	\$ 9,591.47
Wesley, Warren	2001	0154797	\$ 123.20
		TOTAL	\$16,862.28

**LINCOLN COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR REFUNDS
MOTOR VEHICLES**

PERIOD COVERED (February 7, 2005 - February 20, 2004)

G.S.#105-381(B) ALL REFUNDS MORE THAN \$100.00
(and) #105-325 including (A) (6)

NAME	YEAR	DIST	A/C#	AMOUNT
Benack, Robert J.	2004	ELFD	0177879	108.47
VT Inc. Tstee World Omni	2004	CITY	0121060	141.01
			TOTAL	\$249.48

**LINCOLN COUNTY TAX DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR REFUNDS
ANNUALS**

PERIOD COVERED (February 14, 2005-February 20, 2005)

G.S.#105-381(B) ALL REFUNDS ANNUAL MORE THAN \$100.00
(and) #105-325 including (A) (6)

NAME	YEAR	DIST	A/C#	AMOUNT
Piedmont Companies Inc.	1999-2002	CITY	0129462	344.39

Gaston Community Action Inc. 2001-2003	CITY	0151850	1036.13
		TOTAL	\$ 1,380.52

Budget Adjustment No. 65 to budget for electrical repairs to Courthouse approval 2/21/05.

Request from Special Olympics: Lisa Frazier, Coordinator for Special Olympics in Lincoln County, presented a request for \$2,500.00. She spoke concerning the fact that their budget will be greatly affected by not being able to use county vans. For trips to games, they will now have to rent vans and special equipment. She stated that her position is unpaid and she would like the county to consider having someone take it over. She also asked for the Board to give her a budget every year instead of her coming to ask for money when needed.

Chairman Anderson stated that in the budget discussions, he would like to include funding for Special Olympics and believes it should be under Parks and Recreation.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Patton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request for \$2,500.00 for Special Olympics for this year.

Commissioner Funderburk stated that due to the Transportation Plan, no vans are available for these groups to use.

Proclamation Concerning “Walls of Honor and the Patriots Star”: Gary Humphries and Keith Decker, with United Veterans of America, presented the following proclamation for the Board’s approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Funderburk, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Proclamation.

PROCLAMATION
LINCOLN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, The United Veterans of America organized in 2001 to complete the Walls of Honor and Patriots Star.

WHEREAS, the United Veterans of America helped complete Phase I of its “Repatriate America” project with the dedication of the worlds largest flying American flag and its pole on June 12, 1999.

WHEREAS, Phase II of this project consists of building two star shaped walls around the base of the flagpole. The first to honor all contributors who donated to the project. The second will be built to honor all Veterans who have made the supreme sacrifice dating from the Revolutionary War to the present and will be named “The Patriots Star.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED it is fitting and proper that the County of Lincoln, this the 7th day of March in the year 2005, lends his support to the United Veterans of America in its completion of the Construction of the “Walls of Honor” and the Patriots Star” and further encourage all residents to support this effort honoring all who gave the supreme sacrifice for their country by contracting their Representatives and Senators in their respective areas encouraging them to assist in this effort.

Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation: Cathy Vinzant presented the following Proclamation for the Board’s approval.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Patton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout the community;

WHEREAS, approximately five million children are reported as abused or neglected in this country each year;

WHEREAS, approximately 113,000 children are reported as abused and neglected in North Carolina last year;

WHEREAS, 30 children were victims of child abuse homicide in North Carolina during the year 2003;

WHEREAS, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

WHEREAS, all citizens should become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

THEREFORE, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in **Lincoln County** and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

Thomas R. Anderson, PE
Chairman

ATTEST:

Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Elimination of Deferral for Capacity Development Fees: Steve Gilbert, Director of Public Utilities, presented the following information.

In 2001, just after the Capacity Development Fees for water were raised to the current level, a special allowance was made by the Board at that time to allow the payment of these fees to be deferred. Instead of paying at the time of application for service, the fee would only have to be paid before a Certificate of Occupancy would be issued by the Building and Land Department. Since that time very few customers have taken advantage of the allowed deferral, and because it is used so infrequently, keeping track of the accounts that have deferred the payment between the two departments has not been easy.

For these reasons, the Public Works Department recommends that the policy be changed to no longer allow the Capacity fees for water and sewer to be deferred. This would require full payment of all fees at the time of application, and would greatly simplify recordkeeping for both Public Works and Building and Land. This change would be effective April 1, 2005.

Steve Gilbert stated that the deferral of fees is only used 3 to 4 times per year.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Moore, the Board voted unanimously to no longer allow deferral of payment of Capacity Development Fees and that all fees will be due and payable at the time of application for service, with an effective date of April 1, 2005.

Discounting of Capacity Development Fees for County Departments: Steve Gilbert, Director of Public Utilities, presented the following information.

In order to reduce the costs of construction for County Departments and other agencies receiving County support, the Public Works Department is bringing a proposal for the discounting of Capacity Development Fees for such projects. Currently, these fees have been collected at their full amount, which depend up on the size of water connections

required. While the fees do go toward the upgrading of Public Works facilities due to the increased capacity demand, the cost of the fees generally just goes from one department to another. Therefore, Mr. Gilbert recommended that the Capacity Development Fees for water and sewer connections related to construction by County Departments and other agencies having to bear the cost of construction projects. This would not change the cost of taps and installation of meters, which are done at cost.

The Public Works Department recommends that the Capacity Development Fees for water and sewer connections related to construction by County Departments and other agencies receiving County support be discounted by 50%. If approved, this change will become effective immediately.

There was a discussion concerning who would receive this discount.

The Board asked Mr. Gilbert to bring this back before the Board with groups listed that will get the discount.

Steve Gilbert stated that he has sent the request to Congressman McHenry's office for a grant for the waterline for Highway 73.

Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs) for Schools: George Dellinger and Dr. Jim Watson presented information on Qualified Zone Academy Bonds for Schools.

The Lincoln County Schools are proposing to apply for \$2 million in QZABs that would go toward repairs and renovations at qualified schools. The schools that qualify for these funds would be:

- Lincolnton High School
- Lincolnton Middle School
- West Lincoln Middle School
- Union Elementary School
- North Brook Elementary School
- Love Memorial Elementary School
- G.E. Massey Elementary School
- Iron Station Elementary School.

Part of the qualifying factors include that a school must have 35% or more of their students on free or reduced lunch.

If awarded these funds, there will be a 12 to 14 year payback period and it would be interest free. This would be a tremendous savings to the county. If awarded these bonds, this money would be used in lieu of the full \$47 million school bond.

It was the consensus of the Board to give approval to Lincoln County Schools to apply for the \$2 million Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs).

Other Business: Commissioner Funderburk volunteered to serve on the Homeland Security Grant Committee.

UPON MOTION by Commissioner Funderburk, the Board voted unanimously to appoint the Board of Commissioners as the study group for district representation.

Commissioner Mitchem stated that the people in Lincoln County elected the Board of Commissioners and it is up to them to make tough decisions without having to rely on a committee.

Commissioner Anderson asked Leon Harmon for clarification concerning a letter from the Local Government Commission.

Recess: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Patton, the Board voted unanimously to recess until Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lincoln County EMS base

Amy S. Long, Clerk
Board of Commissioners

Thomas R. Anderson, PE, Chairman
Board of Commissioners