

MINUTES
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 28, 2013

The Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners met jointly with the Lincoln County Board of Education on January 28, 2013 at the Lincoln County Board of Education Office, 353 N. Generals Blvd, Lincolnton, NC 28092 at 8:15 A.M.

Commissioners Present:

Alex E. Patton, Chairman
Carl E. Robinson, Jr., Vice Chair
Cecelia A. Martin

Commissioners Absent:

Carrol D. Mitchem
James A. Klein

School Board Members:

Candy Burgin, Chair
Mark Mullen, Vice-Chair
Cathy Davis
Bob Silver
Tony Jenkins

School Board Members Absent:

Clayton Mullis

County Staff Present:

George A. Wood, County Manager
Martha W. Lide, Assistant County Manager
Amy S. Atkins, Clerk to the Board

Board of Education Staff Present:

Dr. Sherry A. Hoyle, Superintendent
Dr. Elaine Boysworth, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Matthew Stover, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Steve Zickefoose, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs
Karen Drum, Clerk to the Board.

Also in Attendance:

Senator David Curtis
Representative Jason Saine

Chairman Patton called the meeting to order and introduced the Commissioners and staff present.

Chairman Patton gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Approval of Agenda

The following agenda was submitted for approval:

1. Call to Order of Both Boards by the Two Chairmen
2. Moment of Silence
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Introduction of state legislators:
Senator David L. Curtis Representative Jason Saine
6. Presentation of Legislative Priorities: County Commission
7. Presentation of Legislative Priorities: Board of Education
8. Updates and Responses from Senator Curtis and Representative Saine
9. Other Business
10. Adjourn

Presentation of Legislative Priorities: County Commissioners

County Commissioners presented the following priorities:

- Opposes shifting the state's secondary-road system to the counties
- Reinstating the full amount of lottery and ADA funding. Mr. Robinson stated he had heard rumors that some would like to remove schools out of lottery. Representative Saine replied while one or two members have spoken about it, it is unlikely to happen.
- Opposes unfunded mandates that shifts expenses to the county
- Opposes sales and property tax exemptions
- Concerned about adequate mental health funding
- Concerned about retaining non-emergency medical transportation

Presentation of Legislative Priorities: Board of Education

Dr. Hoyle presented the following priorities:

- Elimination of discretionary cuts which began in 2008-09 when return was ½ percent. In 2011-12 the discretionary cut was 5.5 % and last year it was 4.6%. The amount of teaching positions in classrooms had to be reduced by increasing classroom size by two in grades 4-12. A lot of teacher assistants were eliminated and those that weren't had their work day reduced from 7.5 hours to 6 hours.
- Request more flexibility with school calendar. Regulations in the current school calendar does not allow alignment with community colleges or universities, the ability to build in snow days and requires exams to be taken two weeks after returning from Christmas break.
- Security concerns – are there plans as far as funding for security? Senator Curtis stated he did not know of any legislation being proposed at this time.

Representative Saine stated he is working on a bill to address digital competencies by looking for ways to do technology training.

Both Representative Saine and Senator Curtis were supportive of the request for more flexibility at the local level on numerous issues and considered education a priority. It was noted that revenues were up this year and funds were in a lot better shape.

Adjourn: **UPON MOTION** by Commissioner Robinson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.