

**GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2013**

The Gates County Board of Commissioners reconvened in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 23, 2013, from Wednesday, January 2, 2013, in the main courtroom, 202 Court Street, Gatesville. Commissioners Jordan, Owens, Hora, and Hofler were present. Also present was County Manager, Jon Mendenhall.

Chairman Jordan led a prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Jordan stated the Agenda needed to be amended by the following: we will swear in the new County Manager, Billy Winn will be moved to the beginning of the Department Reports and Item V.A.2.a. will be tabled.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Hora seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

The Clerk administered the oath of office to Jon Mendenhall, County Manager.

Citizens' Comments

Frances Jenkins, President, NexxII Nun Ryders MC, a non-profit organization, who previously came before the Board stated she felt the club was misrepresented at the January 15 Board of Adjustment meeting. The club is not a lounge or private club but a social organization. She would like to be reconsidered.

Carolina Riddick, Eure, stated there needs to be a better means of communication between the office and the high school shop class; the phone cannot be heard over the sound of equipment/tools when in operation. The schools need to be safer.

J. E. Harrell, Gates, commends the Board for taking action and moving forward.

Doug Baily, Corapeake, stated in 2009 Gates County passed an Animal Control Ordinance. He has had a situation with a neighbor for the past three (3) years providing food and water to at least 12 stray cats. He may contact the Sheriff's office and request the Animal Control Ordinance be enforced.

Sidney Pierce, Hobbsville, stated a town hall meeting will be held on January 24 at the Millpond for Representative Bill Cooke.

Department Reports

Billy Winn, Emergency Management Director, presented a Fire Fighter Contract for renewal for each fire department.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to accept the contract as presented. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Patrice Lassiter, GITS Director presented the FY-2014 Community Transportation Program Grant.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the Community Transportation Program Grant. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the Community Transportation Program Grant. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the grant application as presented. Commissioner Hora seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Ms. Lassiter presented the FY-2014 Targeted Assistance Program for Federal Sections 5310 Application.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the Targeted Assistance Program for Federal Sections 5310 Application. Commissioner Hora seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the Targeted Assistance Program for Federal Sections 5310 Application. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to accept the application as modified. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Mrs. Lassiter presented a request from the Hertford County Department of Social Services to provide transportation services.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to table the issue to allow sufficient time for research. Commissioner Hora seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chairman Jordan requested the Board deviate from the approved Agenda and allow Clearscapes Architects to proceed with their presentation.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to proceed with Agenda Item IV.A. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Fred Belledin, Steve Schuster, Jon Zellweger, and Helen Ruth Almond, Clearscapes Architects, provided a Courthouse Renovation/Stabilization Phase I Report Summary.

Chuck Brothers, Gates, questioned if the traffic pattern has been reviewed.

The response was that is where geo tests and understanding geo technical information will be beneficial. There are ways to stabilize the soil issues.

Chairman Jordan stated the next step would be for the Courthouse Committee to meet and bring back a recommendation to the Commissioners.

Morgan Jethro, Planning Director, presented a rezoning request for Susie Valentine to rezone property from R-1 to RMH-1.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to enter the Public Hearing for the Susie Valentine rezoning request. Commissioner Hora seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chuck Brothers, Gates, Planning Board member, stated the request has been before the Planning Board on two (2) occasions. The first time the vote was tied and the second time it passed.

Laleita Valentine, Gates, Susie Valentine's daughter-in-law, stated the house is being moved for her and she asked the Board to please approve the request.

Joe Greene, Eure, Planning Board member, requests the Board approve the rezoning request.

Sandra Nickens, Gatesville, stated she had previously visited the residence and it did not have sound flooring.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to exit Public Hearing. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chairman Jordan recommended to rezone the whole area.

Chairman Jordan made a motion to approve the rezoning request for Susie Valentine from R-1 to RMH-1. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the ABC Board rezoning request. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

George Kittrell, Corapeake, ABC Board Chairman, stated of the five (5) properties reviewed located within one (1) mile of the Eure ABC store, this site is the only site with DOT access.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to approve the ABC Board rezoning request, R-1 to C-1, as presented. Commission Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Ms. Jethro stated the Flood Damage Prevention Text Amendment still needs to be reviewed by the Planning Board.

New Business

Chairman Jordan, stated a Commissioner representative needs to be appointed to the Animal Shelter Board.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to appoint Commissioner Owens to the Animal Shelter Board. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chairman Jordan stated the County has a policy stating that all delinquent taxes must be paid prior to permits being issued; a concession needs to be made for Urgent Repair Grant (URP) recipients.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to waive requirements for getting a permit for URP Grant recipients; they must have a payment plan in place. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chairman Jordan presented Personnel Board recommendations. The first recommendation is to reclassify a Tax Clerk from 55-AA to 56-X.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the reclassification of a Tax Clerk from 55-AA to 56-X. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Chairman Jordan stated the Personnel Board discussed a shift differential for deputies on night shift. Interim County Manager, Ken Windley, had polled neighboring counties and only one (1) of six (6) counties paid a shift differential. The Commissioners requested Mr. Mendenhall to perform further surveying and report back to the Personnel Board at their next meeting.

Chairman Jordan presented a request to amend the Personnel Ordinance to include: *Employees who transfer to Gates County or have credible previous experience from another county or entity belonging to the Local Government Employees' Retirement System are eligible to transfer their years of service for the purpose of earning vocation leave and longevity. This is effective January 1, 2013.*

Commissioner Hora made a motion to move forward with adopting the change to the Personnel Ordinance pending the requirement of a public hearing. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

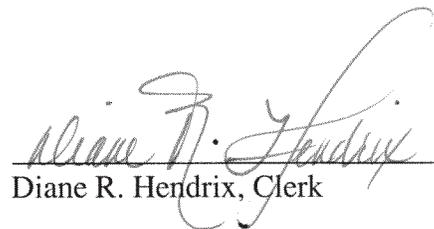
Mr. Mendenhall responded to a request by the Personnel Board to solicit services from companies that perform salary studies. He has a response from one company thus far and is still researching companies.

Citizens' Comments

Sandra Nickens, Gatesville, stated she transferred time to Roanoke-Chowan Mental Health and her years of service were recognized.

Commissioner Hora made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.


Henry L. Jordan, Chairman


Diane R. Hendrix, Clerk

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