

Gates County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2008

The Gates County Board of Commissioners reconvened in Regular Session on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 1:00 pm in the County Commissioners' Room, 202 Court Street, Gatesville, NC. Commissioners Pierce, Askew, Jernigan and Nickens were present.

John Whitehurst, consultant, presented the 2008-2009 budget to the Commissioners. He made the recommendation for \$79,553.00 to be used from the fund balance. The budget is based on the 97.5% tax rate. He has included a 3% cost of living increase. He recommended a \$1.00 per 1000 gallons of water over 2,000 gallons increase for the Water Department. As a note, one (1) cent in tax brings in \$52,908. A salary cost schedule has been included, this will explain what it cost the county for a 3% cost of living increase.

Commissioner Jernigan wanted to know if a cushion was put in for fuel cost.

Mr. Whitehurst stated it was in place.

It was decided that a public hearing on the budget will be on June 12, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Randall Cahoon stated that Dan Askew's term on the Board of Adjustments will expire on June 30. He would like the Board to consider Chuck Brothers as a replacement for Mr. Askew.

Commissioner Jernigan would also like for Bryan Buck to be considered for the Board of Adjustments.

Mr. Cahoon discussed a current concern with a citizen in Gates. He is building a house with a detached garage on the same piece of property. The permit is to build a garage and dog kennel. The second story above the dog kennel is going to be complete living quarters with a kitchen, three bedrooms and two and one-half baths. There is 40 feet between the house and the dog kennel. There is not enough room to divide the property.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion for Mr. Cahoon to issue a stop order until the owner is in compliance, which is not to build the kitchen in the quarters over the kennel, Commissioner Nickens seconded, motion carried with no opposition.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to go into closed session, Commissioner Askew seconded.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to back into regular session, Commissioner Nickens seconded.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to hire Justin Hembree as a consultant and as an interim County Manager for \$70 per hour, all inclusive, Commissioner Nickens seconded, motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Hembree will be able to begin work at noon on Monday, June 9, work all day on Tuesday, and work until noon on Wednesday. He will set up a date and time to view applications with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Nickens questioned if the department heads should be involved in the interview process.

Mr. Hembree stated it is important that key department heads interact with the applicants, particularly the elected officials.

Sandy Pittman presented to the Board the contract she revised upon their request for the Building Inspector's Office.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to accept the contract for the Building Inspector's Office as written, Commissioner Nickens seconded, motion carried with no opposition.

Commissioner Nickens questioned how is it going to be enforced that the county buildings and property are tobacco free?

Chairman Pierce responded, by order. Signs will be purchased stating the buildings and property are tobacco free by order of the local government.

Mrs. Pittman discussed with the Board the budget amendment that was not approved. In reference, the check had already been sent to the Grant Institute. There will not be a refund, only a credit. The money can be transferred to someone else. Mrs. Pittman will check if any other agencies will be able to utilize these funds.

Mrs. Pittman also discussed with the Board the memo from Ann Blindt with the Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Management Authority. The memo was just for the Board's review.

Mrs. Pittman stated she had received an e-mail from Virginia Moore; Mrs. Moore would no longer be available to handle posting of the surplus property. Mrs. Pittman will now be posting surplus equipment. She gave an update on previously posted equipment. The county was asking \$1,200 for surplus truck from the Water Department but has received a bid for only \$975. The mud pump has not received any bids. She was instructed to re-submit the truck for bids and to get with Timmy Hedgepeth to either scrap or recycle the mud pump.

Commissioner Nickens questioned if Ms. Moore's job description needed to be revised.

Mrs. Pittman stated she would like to talk to the interim county manager regarding this once he is settled.

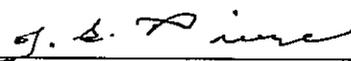
Mrs. Pittman stated she had pulled the papers on the personnel issue previously discussed.

Mrs. Pittman also discussed the community service workers that have been working in the office. She is not comfortable with them or that they have access to the offices when no one is in.

Commissioner Nickens questioned where else can they go to work off community service hours.

Commissioner Jernigan stated park service, fire departments and the school transportation department have used community service workers in the past.

With no other matters to be discussed Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Askew seconded, motion carried with no opposition.



 J. S. Pierce
 Chairman, Board of Commissioners

GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
