

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Agenda
April 4, 2022 - 5:00 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building Columbus, NC
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Melton, Vice-Chairman Beiler, Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Overholt, and Commissioner Yoder. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board Tipton, media, and citizens

1. Call to Order - Chairman Melton.

2. Invocation - Chairman Melton

At the request of Chairman Melton, Pastor Timothy Fortune gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Moore

Chairman Melton said Vice-Chairman Beiler's mother had a medical emergency last week. He said due to the quick response from emergency services she is expected to make a full recovery and is already back home.

Vice-Chairman Beiler expressed his gratitude to the emergency service workers for their care and hard work.

4. Approval of Agenda

A. Items may be added or removed at this time.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda - Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of March 21, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. Budget Amendment to increase Maintenance Department Capital for the purchase of a tractor. (Funds approved in budget.)

C. Amended ARPA Grant Project Ordinance, as approved by the Polk County Board of Commissioners on 2/21/2022 after the Final Rule was released.

D. Tax refund requests through March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$1,357.37.

E. Budget Amendment to Increase Contract Service budget for a one year contract with Priority Dispatch. (Funds approved in budget.)

- F. Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant Agreement Resolutions with Charter Communications and Windstream Communications.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There were none.

7. Resolution to Recognize April 2022 as Isothermal Community College Month - Margaret H. Annunziata, Ed.D. President, Isothermal Community College

Dr. Annunziata requested the Boards consideration in recognizing April 2022 as Isothermal Community College Month. She said they are proud to serve Polk County and to help add value to the community. Based on the work done by President Ronald Reagan back in 1985, April was named Community College Month nationally, they are asking that the Board name April 2022 as Isothermal Community College Month in Polk County.

Commissioner Moore moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

8. North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS) Service Appreciation Awards - Michael Crater, EMS Director

Tonya Pool from NCOEMS and Micahel Crater, EMS Director presented recognition of service awards. The first award went to the late Allan Cantrell's wife, Mary Cantrell. Mr. Cantrell passed away last year due to Covid related pneumonia after 30+years of service to Polk County. The second recognition of service award went to recently retired Darrin Cronan for his 31 years of service to Polk County.

9. Approval of Grant Project Budget Ordinance for Lake Adger Dam Rehabilitation - Manager Pittman

In the North Carolina State Budget, Manager Pittman said a \$6,500,000 grant from the State Capital and Infrastructure Fund (SCIF) was allocated to provide repairs to the Turner Shoals Dam at Lake Adger. Since the funds have been received, creating a grant project ordinance is the next step. He said David Odom, the County Engineer, will attend a meeting next month to brief the Board on the project and present a timeline.

Commissioner Overholt moved to approve the Grant Project Budget Ordinance in the amount of \$6,500,000, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Economic Development Priorities - Cathy Ruth, Planning and Economic Development Director.

Cathy Ruth requested the approval of the Economic Tourism and Development

Commissions' recommended Economic Development Priorities.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Economic Development Priorities, seconded by Commissioner Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

11. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), Green River Cove Rd. Discussion - Cathy Ruth, Planning and Economic Development Director.

Cathy Ruth, Planning and Economic Development Director, said Polk County is currently working with other stakeholders on revising the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP is a long-range plan developed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to incorporate land use plans and community and statewide goals. It will be used to prioritize future projects. The CTP is to provide for the safe and effective use of the transportation system (roadways). Ms. Ruth said a citizen requested adding the portion of Green River Cove Rd. from Fish Top to Silver Creek to the plan so it may be considered for future improvements such as widening the shoulders for safety.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to approve the addition of Green River Cove Rd, to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Volunteer Board Application(s)

A. The following applications were received for consideration to serve on a Polk County Volunteer Board: Health and Human Services Agency Board Recommendations - Luvenia Abrams, Thomas Adkins, Steve Burney, Chris Davis, Aaron Greene, Dr. Bill Hay, Dr. George Kim, Penny Padgett, Terri Palmer, QP., and Ellen Thomas. YMCA Recreation Development Committee - Dee James.

Commissioner Overholt moved to approve the applicants as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

13. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There was one citizen comment on non-agenda items.

14. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

Commissioner Moore recognized Superintendent Aaron Greene for being selected as Foothills Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year.

Commissioner Overholt thanked EMS for their service and for attending the meeting. He said the NCDOT project at Hwy 9 and Landrum Rd. intersection has begun and is expected to be completed by the end of the week. He urged citizens to be cautious as everyone adjusts to the new traffic pattern.

Commissioner Yoder reported that the Lake Adger Marina Dredging Project was nearing completion. In addition, he said he attended a North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) Directors meeting over the weekend where Polk County was being discussed at the state level for all the good things being done in our county.

Vice-Chair Beiler echoed the Commissioner's comments and thanked

everyone for attending the meeting. Once again, he thanked all of the emergency personnel for their hard work.
Manager Pittman reported that a news article listed Polk County as the fourth-best county to retire to in North Carolina (NC has 100 counties).

15. Closed Session

- A. Commissioner Overholt moved to go into closed session for the purposes of attorney client privilege and property acquisition, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Vice-Chairman Beiler motioned to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Moore moved to to enter into a contract to Exchange, Purchase, and Sell Real Property effective April 4, 2022, with the non-profit Steps to Hope, under which the county will acquire Parcel C7-J12 consisting of .57 acres of land plus improvements thereon in exchange for county Parcel C7-E9 consisting of .66 acres of vacant land plus the sum of \$33,000, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to to recommend a one-year extension on the Bulldog Industries grant contract to the Department of Commerce, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board

Tommy W. Melton
Chairman