POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Agenda
February 7, 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 - Commissioner Moore

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Yoder

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. January 20, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

   B. Vaya Health Quarterly Financial Reports for the period ending December 31,2021.

   C. Tax refund requests through January 31, 2022 in the amount of $3,379.95

   D. Declare IT equipment as surplus to be sold electronically through Govdeals.

   Commissioner Yoder moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Vice-Chairman Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

   There was one citizen comment on agenda items.

7. Broad River Water District (BRWD), County of Polk, and Inman Campobello Water District (ICWD) Management Agreement - Belton Zeigler Partner at Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP will lead the discussion.

Amy Crout, Assistant Attorney at Womble Bond Dickinson lead the discussion, Belton Zeigler attended remotely. Ms. Crout has been working with Mr. Zeigler on amending the agreement with changes based on the Local Government Commission (LGC) recommendations. The first change is that any financing for new facilities or construction would be subject to final approval from LGC. The agreement has been extended for 20 years from the execution of the third amendment, at the request of the LGC, with automatic renewal terms of 10 years, and the only way a party can terminate the agreement is upon 5 years written notice to each party before the end of the term. A delayed termination provision was also added, so any debt incurred on the system would extend the contract until the debt is paid with ratepayer funds. Attorney Berg stated she is comfortable with the agreement. Manager Pittman thanked Ms. Crout and Mr. Zeigler for their hard work and went on to say that ensuring the future of Polk County water main for the next 20 years is a huge deal. The Commissioners agreed that this is a big win for Polk County citizens and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Broad River Water Authority; Polk County, NC; and the Inman-Campobello Water District Water Agreement., seconded by Commissioner Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Polk County EMS Updated fee schedule - Michael Crater, EMS Director.

Michael Crater, EMS Director presented the Board with a proposed fee increase recommended by Tarheel Billing to more closely follow Medicare guidelines and those of surrounding counties.

Commissioner Yoder moved to approve the Polk County EMS amended fee schedule, seconded by Vice-Chairman Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Polk County Schools, Career and Technical Education Program (CTE) - Lindsey Edwards, CIMC, CDC, SPC and Josh Hill, Polk County High School Assistant Principal.

Lindsey Edwards, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator gave a presentation about the CTE programs the schools offer to students beginning in the 6th grade. These courses are to encourage either enrollment in college, enlistment in armed services, or employment.

10. Polk County Local Business/ Non-Profit Survey Results- Cathy Ruth, Planning and Economic Development Director and Karyl Fuller, Foothills Regional Commission Economic and Community Development Director.

Cathy Ruth and Karyl Fuller presented the board with a PowerPoint presentation a copy of which is hereby incorporated into these minutes. They reviewed the data gathered and discussed some marketing ideas. The county will continue to support and encourage businesses.

11. Approval of E911 Renovation and Relocation Project Consultant - Manager Pittman

Manager Pittman said the county solicited bids by sending Request for Proposals (RFP) to known entities, on the NC Public Safety Answering Point Managers Listserv, and on the Polk County Website. One response, from Mission Critical Partners (MCP), was received for the project. He detailed that MCP will provide consultative and overall project management services to the County during facility design and construction, as well as during technology procurement, implementation, and testing. These services include coordination of space design, PSAP facility best practices, technology (as noted in the grant application), and system integration. In addition, MCP will assist the County in developing an overall budget and schedule for various facets of the project. Manager Pittman recommended that the county accept the proposal and award the contract to Mission Critical Partners.

Commissioner Yoder moved to to accept the proposal and award the contract to Mission Critical Partners, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Four-Wheel Drive Ambulance Purchase - Michael Crater, EMS Director.

Michael Crater, EMS Director said that after the recent snow event it became apparent that EMS is in need of another four-wheel-drive ambulance. He presented the board with three bids and recommended accepting the lowest bid from Select Custom Apparatus in the amount of $159,545. He went on to say that this is a 2020 demonstration ambulance and is available now, whereas the others are more expensive and would take up to twenty-four months to build the ambulance. He said this ambulance would be in rotation with the others and not just for use in bad weather.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to approve the purchase and award the contract for a four-wheel-drive ambulance to Select Custom Apparatus, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the budget amendment appropriating General Fund Balance in the amount of $159,545, seconded by Commissioner Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

13. Volunteer Board Application(s)

A. The following applications were received for consideration to serve on a Polk County Volunteer Board: Foothills Regional Commission - Fred Baisden. Planning Board - Edward Daniel, Warren Eadus, Lisa Krolak, Anwar Timol.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to appoint Fred Baisden to the Foothills Regional Commission, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Beiler moved to appoint Anwar Timol as the Cooper Gap Township representative; Warren Eadus as the Saluda Township representative; Edward Daniel as the White Oak Township representative; and Lisa Krolak as the At Large representative on the Planning Board., seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There were none.

15. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

Commissioner Yoder said he received good news while attending the NCACC conference last weekend, the NCDHHS reported a decrease in covid cases over the past two weeks. He commended the schools on their CTE program. Commissioner Moore thanked everyone for coming out and said he drove by Lake Adger and noticed that dredging was getting ready to start. Vice-Chairman Beiler also thanked everyone for coming out, then addressed Micahel Crater to thank him for the exceptional care his son received during transport to the hospital after an accident a couple of weeks ago. Chairman Melton concurred and also thanked the Sheriff for all the work he does.

16. Closed Session

A. Motion to go into closed session of the purpose of attorney client privilege.

Commissioner Moore moved to go into closed session for the purpose of attorney-client privilege, seconded by Commissioner Yoder and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion to return to open session.

Commissioner Moore moved to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.

17. 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

Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board

Tommy W. Melton

Tommy W. Melton
Chairman