

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 10, 2007
MINUTES

Chairman Leatherman convened the meeting at 6 p.m. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, County Attorney, County Finance Director, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Chairman Leatherman recessed the meeting to immediately reconvene in Courtroom A for the public hearing on the bond referendum orders. Rev. Lloyd Fish, Pastor of the Cowee Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Chairman Leatherman welcomed everyone present. The Chairman informed the group that this hearing is on the bond orders, not the land transfer tax, and requested anyone who wished to speak concerning the land transfer tax to register to speak at public session during the regular meeting.

BOND REFERENDUM PUBLIC HEARING: The following people registered to speak and make the following comments during the public hearing:

John Cleaveland expressed concerns about the estimated costs for both construction and operation of the proposed recreation facilities, stating he felt the numbers were not correct. He added that he felt the Board was at risk of putting the county into debt, the only way to pay was through taxes, that the County is a great county and the Board should be careful not to tax people to death. Mr. Cleaveland expressed appreciation to the Board for their willingness to serve.

Bill Crawford stated he attended school in Macon County, is a retired school teacher from the Macon County School System, now drives a bus, he and his children had all participated in sports in Macon County, that he opposed the proposed recreation bonds and he wished to make three points: (1) there isn't much demand for racquetball courts in Franklin; (2) if there was a year round swimming facility on the Franklin High School campus that was open to the public that would take care of all the swimming needs; and (3) a public facility that replicates private facilities is a bad idea.

Ed Rewis stated he was representing several youth league sports groups and was in favor of the proposed recreation bond referendum. Mr. Rewis stated the girls youth leagues are overwhelmed with the lack of gyms and if facilities aren't available the leagues are going to have to start turning children away. He stated he was also representing church and co-ed leagues and there is a critical need for additional adult fields. Mr. Rewis stated he could not address the cost, just the dire needs, and that the County needs to provide for kids and families who cannot afford to join a gym by providing facilities.

Sloane McDowell, Tori Dragoo, Emily Esterwood, Kyle Ratsch and Gretchen Wilde, all Macon County School students, requested a "yes" vote for the recreation facilities. Comments made were that new facilities could provide additional sports leagues, year round practices, and a "home" for the swim team which could improve an already strong swim program.

Bethany Steiert representing the divers of Macon County stated the lack of diving local facilities creates a real hardship on divers, their families and coaches. She stated they have to travel to Western Carolina University or Asheville to get practice time that is usually limited to an hour or less. Ms. Steiert asked that when discussing new facilities to please keep divers in mind.

Narelle Kirkland stated she had listened to the young people and advocated the importance of competition which is a good teacher and builds self reliance.

Dwain Picou, swimming coach, expressed appreciation to the recreation park, Franklin Golf Course and Franklin Fitness Center for use of their facilities but stated the swim team has out grown all local facilities and needs a larger facility, giving statistics on the number of swimmers in the various leagues.

Mr. Picou expressed the opinion that sports saves kids lives and if no sporting programs are available the kids just "hang out". He requested something be done for these extremely talented kids.

Mike Steiert stated he is the father of a diver and these kids need a place to practice and compete. He stated as a diver his daughter would not benefit from the proposed facilities but we needed to think of the kids coming on.

Larry Stenger stated if everyone had not visited the new SCC and Library facilities they should and that the facilities were visions six years ago. He added that people make an investment when they pay their taxes for which the Board of Commissioners is the watch dog and six years ago they made a tough decision which was about the quality of life in Macon County. He stated the people of Macon County work together to be the best we can be and the County needs these new recreation facilities. He stated the Board has an opportunity to make an investment for the future of Macon County.

Fred Haller stated he was the local president of Senior Games who registered over 300 participants this year. He expressed the opinion that the County should have facilities for youth and seniors adding that the current recreation park is thirty years old. Mr. Haller stated in the County Recreation Master Plan everyone asked for an indoor pool. He added that the County has one of the lowest tax rates in the state and asked that the County be brought up to other counties around us.

Charles Shelton stated he was all for recreation but he believed that cost projections were low and that the County should not compete with other private facilities. He stated when estimating building costs a lot of things need to be looked at and asked the Board to make sure they were looking at the total costs.

Debbie Stewart stated she is the parent of a member of the Mountain Swim League and of home schooled children. She stated because her child is home schooled he is not eligible to participate on the high school team and dropped from first to fifth ranked because of lack of practice facilities. She added that her daughter plays basketball and due to lack of facilities has late practices. Ms. Stewart stated her support of the recreation bond referendum.

Barbara Morris, co-owner of Franklin Health & Fitness Center, stated she and her husband had raised three children who were very involved in sports and she understood what all the parents were saying but that the number of people in the Franklin area that would use indoor pool facilities is very limited and she would question building a new facility for that limited number. She also stated the pool temperature for competitive swimmers and senior swimmers is about 8 degrees difference and it can take two days to change the temperature of a pool 2 degrees. Ms. Morris suggested covering the county recreation park pool stating she had received estimates of \$53,000 for a cover and heater. She also suggested it would be cheaper to buy Middle School swimmers memberships to the Fitness Center adding that the high school swimmers already have use of the facility.

Tony Baro stated his mother-in-law has Alzheimers and utilizes the Senior Services Center. He explained the service is great, the staff phenomenal, the facility immaculate and it's a joy to be able to leave a family member there knowing they will be well cared for but the facility is just too small. He supported the referendum for a new Senior Services Center adding to also give the kids what they need.

Susan Norton stated she and her husband have been residents of Macon County for two years and prior to that time she had been a caregiver to her mother for five years. She added they are now caregivers for her mother-in-law who has dementia and she goes to the Senior Services Center. Ms. Norton stated they are extremely pleased with the facility and they have watched it outgrow the current space. She stated the need for additional space and expanded bathroom facilities is a serious situation in need of serious consideration. Ms. Norton

stated she hoped the Board would put full thought into a new senior center, continue to expand services for seniors and expressed appreciation for the new Macon Early College her son attends. She added that she is not afraid to pay her share of taxes for needs of the County.

Ed Morris, co-owner of the Franklin Health and Fitness Center, stated he was at a meeting last week and received a flyer outlining what the citizens can expect to get for \$9.4 million. He expressed concerns about the reduction of the square foot building cost to \$54 per square foot as compared to the estimated cost of school construction at \$164 per square foot. He added concerns about the projected operating budget being less than the current operating budget, limited parking and grading estimates. Mr. Morris stated that with around 1800 members the Fitness Center has a very small profit margin and if they lose fifty members they could be forced to close adding that with the closing of the private facility the County will have a pool with eight lanes instead of five lanes to serve all the taxpayers plus swim teams. Mr. Morris requested serious discussions with the Recreation Commission about realistic costs estimates.

Janet Holt stated she had been employed by Senior Services and after retirement volunteers there. She stated the clients there are very important, that she remembered when the facility was enlarged they didn't think it would fill up and now they have outgrown it. She explained the area is congested, closed in and larger facilities, especially restroom facilities, are needed.

Martin Wardiwitz, Chief Operations Office with Angel Medical Center (AMC), stated AMC worked with Healthy Carolinians on the Recreation Master Plan and endorses the new recreation facility. Mr. Wardiwitz quoted statistics on sedentary life styles and how exercise can offset some of these. He added that with inactivity it is even more important to provide facilities to provide opportunities for a variety of activities. Mr. Wardiwitz stated he is also a parent of a member of the swim team and support their efforts. He requested the Board to keep the hospital in mind as a resource.

Chairman Leatherman thanked everyone for becoming involved and for their comments. The hearing was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. and the regular meeting was reconvened in the Board Room on the third floor.

MINUTES: The minutes of the August 13th and 20th meetings were approved as submitted with the following corrections: on page one of the August 13th minutes, "Franklin Little League" was changed to read "Franklin Girls Little League"; and on page one of the August 20th minutes under the Water/Sewer item, "minimum of \$500,000 and a maximum of \$1,000,000" was changed to read "a maximum of \$500,000". Motion for approval was made by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY FUNDING POOL: Karen Wallace presented recommendations on behalf of the Community Funding Pool for allocation of the \$50,000 to nonprofits and gave a brief explanation of the Pool's evaluation process. Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the allocations as presented per attachment #1.

PUBLIC SESSION: Narrell Kirkland informed the Board that she had made a proposal to the TDC and Alderwoman Sissy Patillo for filming a movie about Macon County. She stated the TDC does not have enough money to fund the project and she needed to get an indication of available funding to determine if she can move forward with the project. John Cleaveland questioned the status of the old library stating former Commissioner Allan Bryson had told him the building was to be sold to retire a portion of the debt for the new library. Chairman Leatherman responded the Board had received several requests concerning use of the building and no decision has been made. Mr. Cleveland also questioned if there would be a public hearing on the land transfer tax and was informed not before the referendum but, if approved, a hearing would need to be held before implementing the tax. Mr. Cleveland stated his opposition to the tax saying he felt it was unfair to add another real estate tax and the

reason of using the tax to expand infrastructure was also unfair.

RELEASE OF OCCUPANCY TAX PENALTY: A letter from Ann Cornwell owner of Sit A Spell Cabins requesting waiver of a \$320 penalty for late filing of an occupancy tax report was presented. After discussion Commissioner Davis made a motion to reduce the late penalty assessment to \$50. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClellan and passed four to one with Commissioner Beale opposing.

RELEASE OF PENALTY FOR RETURNED CHECK: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to deny a request from Paul Blank for release of a \$107.00 penalty assessed for return of a check payable on a closed account for payment of property tax.

SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL ORDINANCE: The amended Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance (Chapter 153 of the Macon County Code enacted in 2001) was presented for the first reading. The County Attorney and Building Codes Administrator Jack Morgan outlined changes with the County Attorney noting changes were made as required to comply with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 (article 4, chapter 113A of the North Carolina General Statutes). After discussion Commissioner Beale made a motion to table the item until the October meeting pending further review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. It was noted notice of violations to the ordinance could be issued but penalties could not be assessed until the rewrite of the ordinance is adopted.

REGISTER OF DEEDS INDEXING SYSTEM: The Board was informed the Register of Deeds was seeking proposals for a new indexing system and plans to conduct this purchase through a Request for Proposals process. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis the Board unanimously voted to authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with the successful Proposer for the purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials or equipment for an indexing system for the Register of Deeds, within budgeted funds, in accordance with the provisions of the NC General Statutes Section 143-129.8. The Board also directed that Andy Muncey, I.T. Network Administrator, be involved in the RFP process and evaluation.

APPOINTMENTS: Rest/Nursing Home Advisory Committee - Upon motion by Commissioner Beale and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Nelse Bates to the Rest/Nursing Home Advisory Committee and to appoint Steve Reeves to fill the expired term of Lesley Norris. Both terms will expire August 29, 2010.

Area Agency on Aging Committee - Commissioner Davis made a motion to appoint Health Director Jim Bruckner to fill the vacancy on the Area Agency on Aging Committee filled by the previous Health Director. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. Watershed Review Committee: It was reported attendance of the Watershed Review Committee has been poor and members who have not been attending have been contacted as to their interest in continuing to serve. Siler Slagle (Cartoogechaye Watershed) indicated due to health reasons he was unable to continue to serve. Billy Lowe (Big Creek Watershed) also wishes to be replaced and James Keener (Big Creek Watershed Alternate) is deceased.

The following recommendations have been made: Kathy Tinsley (Cartoogechaye Watershed), Bobby Houston (Big Creek Watershed) and Jimmy Lowe (Big Creek Watershed Alternate). Upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation as presented. All appointments will expire January 1, 2009.

Board of Adjustment - Commissioner McClellan stated he had been in contact with a potential appointee to replace Highlands Representative Tony Potts on the Board of Adjustment and requested this item be postponed until the October meeting.

TAX RELEASES: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner

Davis the Board unanimously voted to approved tax releases in the amount of \$96,058.24. It was noted the amount was more than usual due to adjustments by the Board of Equalization and Review and clerical errors being detected because of the recent mailing of tax notices (Note: a printout of tax releases is on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager's Office.)

2007 BOND REFERENDUM RESOLUTION: Chairman Leatherman announced that the hour and day fixed by the Board of Commissioners for the public hearing upon the orders entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS," "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS," "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS," "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS" and "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS" and that the Board of Commissioners had heard anyone who might wish to be heard on the questions of the validity of said orders or the advisability of issuing said bonds. (Attachment #2)

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Davis , seconded by Commissioner Beale, the order introduced and passed on first reading on August 13, 2007 entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS" was read a second time and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0
Chairman Leatherman then announced that the order entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING 42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS" had been adopted.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the order introduced and passed on first reading on August 13, 2007 entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS" was read a second time and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0
Chairman Leatherman then announced that the order entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS" had been adopted.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Beale ,the order introduced and passed on first reading on August 13, 2007 entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS" was read a second time and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0
Chairman Leatherman then announced that the order entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS" had been adopted.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Beale, the order introduced and passed on first reading on August 13, 2007 entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS" was read a second time and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0
Chairman Leatherman then announced that the order entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS" had been adopted.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the order introduced and passed on first reading on August 13, 2007 entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS" was read a second time and placed upon its final passage. The vote upon the final passage of said order was:
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0
Chairman Leatherman then announced that the order entitled "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS" had been adopted.

The Clerk to the Board was thereupon directed to publish said orders, together with the appended statement as required by The Local Government Bond Act, as amended, once in The Franklin Press.
Thereupon, Chairman Leatherman introduced the following resolution the title of which was read and copies of which had been previously distributed to each

Commissioner:

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A BOND REFERENDUM

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Macon, North Carolina (the "County"):

Section 1. A bond referendum is hereby called to be held between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at which there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the County the questions stated in the form of ballot set forth in Section 4 of this resolution.

Section 2. For said referendum, (i) the registration records for elections in the County shall be used, and the registration records shall be open for the registration of qualified persons and for public inspection in the manner, under the conditions and at the times and places provided by the Macon County Board of Elections, (ii) the chief judges, judges and assistants appointed by the Macon County Board of Elections for the several precincts and voting places in the County shall be the precinct officers for such precincts and voting places and (iii) the precincts and voting places shall be that fixed by the Macon County Board of Elections, subject to change as provided by law. The Macon County Board of Elections is hereby requested to conduct said referendum in the County and to take all necessary steps to that end in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

Section 3. The Clerk to the Board shall cause a notice to be published in The Franklin Press once at least fourteen days before October 12, 2007 (being the 25th day prior to said referendum), and once again not less than seven days before said day, such notice to read substantially as follows:

NOTICE OF BOND REFERENDUM

COUNTY OF MACON, NORTH CAROLINA

A bond referendum will be held in the County of Macon, North Carolina on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 regarding approval of the following:

1. Not to exceed \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS of said County. The proceeds of said school bonds would be used for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating school buildings and other school facilities, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, all as set forth in the bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners for said County on September 10, 2007. If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof may be levied upon all taxable property in the County of Macon.

2. Not to exceed \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS of said County. The proceeds of said public buildings bonds would be used for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating public buildings and other public facilities, including, but not limited to, the construction of new facilities for senior services, social services and emergency services, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, all as set forth in the bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners for said County on September 10, 2007. If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof may be levied upon all taxable property in the County of Macon.

3. Not to exceed \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS of said County. The proceeds of said community college bonds would be used to match, in whole or in part, State of North Carolina grant moneys, for the cost of acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating Building #2 of Southwestern Community College, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, all as set forth in the bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners for said County on September 10, 2007. If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof may be levied upon all taxable property in the County of Macon.

4. Not to exceed \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS of said County. The proceeds of said parks and recreational facilities bonds would be used for improving and expanding the existing park and recreational facilities of said County and acquiring and constructing new park and recreational facilities of said County, including, without limitation, the construction of athletic fields and indoor recreation

facilities, the acquisition of land and rights of way and the furnishing of incidental facilities and equipment, all as set forth in the bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners for said County on September 10, 2007. If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof may be levied upon all taxable property in the County of Macon.

5. Not to exceed \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS of said County. The proceeds of said library bonds would be used for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating library buildings and other library facilities, both fixed and mobile, including but not limited to expansion of the Hudson Library facilities in Highlands, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, all as set forth in the bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners for said County on September 10, 2007. If said bonds are issued, taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof may be levied upon all taxable property in the County of Macon.

The referendum will be conducted by the Macon County Board of Elections. The last day for new registration of those not now registered to vote is Friday, October 12, 2007. For further information and questions regarding said referendum, voter registration, procedures for those residents who have changed residences from the date of the last election, voting by absentee ballot, one stop voting and polling places, please contact the Macon County Board of Elections, 5 West Main Street, Franklin, North Carolina 28734, (828) 349-2034.

The Macon County Board of Elections' website is <http://www.maconnc.org/elections/>.

Sara Waldroop

Chairman, Macon County Board of Elections

Sam K. Greenwood

Ex-Officio Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, County of Macon, North Carolina

Section 4. The form of the ballot to be used at said referendum shall be substantially as follows:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

BOND REFERENDUM

COUNTY OF MACON, NORTH CAROLINA

November 6, 2007

Instructions

- a. To vote IN FAVOR OF THE ORDER, complete the arrow at the right of the word "YES."
- b. To vote AGAINST THE ORDER, complete the arrow at the right of the word "NO."
- c. If you tear or deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another.
- d. Use only the pen or pencil provided.

Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating school buildings and other school facilities, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?

YES []

NO []

Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating public buildings and other public facilities, including, but not limited to, the construction of new facilities for senior services, social services and emergency services, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?

YES []

NO []

Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds,

to match, in whole or in part, State of North Carolina grant moneys, for the cost of acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating Building #2 of Southwestern Community College, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?

YES []

NO []

Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for improving and expanding the existing park and recreational facilities of said County and acquiring and constructing new park and recreational facilities of said County, including, without limitation, the construction of athletic fields and indoor recreation facilities, the acquisition of land and rights of way and the furnishing of incidental facilities and equipment, be approved?

YES []

NO []

Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating library buildings and other library facilities, both fixed and mobile, including but not limited to expansion of the Hudson Library facilities in Highlands, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?

YES []

NO []

[Facsimile of signature]
Chairman of the Macon County Board
of Elections

Note: Language on the ballot should be revised as necessary to reflect the method of voting used by the Macon County Board of Elections.

Section 5. The Clerk to the Board is hereby directed to mail or deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Macon County Board of Elections within three days after the adoption hereof.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Thereupon, upon motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the foregoing resolution entitled "RESOLUTION CALLING A BOND REFERENDUM" was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0

I, Sam K. Greenwood, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Macon, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of said Board for said County at a regular meeting held on September 10, 2007, as it relates in any way to the holding of a public hearing, the adoption of bond orders authorizing bonds of said County and the calling of a bond referendum upon such orders and that said proceedings are recorded in the minutes of said Board.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that proper notice of such regular meeting was given as required by North Carolina law.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that I mailed or delivered a certified copy of the resolution passed on September 10, 2007 entitled "RESOLUTION CALLING A BOND REFERENDUM" to the Macon County Board of Elections on or before the third day following the passage of said resolution.

WITNESS my hand and official seal of said County this 10th day of September, 2007.

Clerk to the Board

BUDGET REVISIONS: The following budget revisions were unanimously approved: revision #20, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, appropriating \$1,840 rebate check received from purchase of radios by Emergency Management; revision #21, upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, appropriating \$1,062 controlled substance tax funds received from the State by the Sheriff's Department; revision #22, upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner

Simpson, carrying forward \$29,234 drug forfeitures funds from the prior year; revision #23, upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, carrying forward \$81,000 unspent appropriation for addition at SCC Industrial Park;

revision #26, upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, adjusting Clean Water Trust Fund Grant by \$33,981 to extend grant period; and

revision #27, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis, appropriating \$1,970 in Transit for funds from sale of vehicle.

(Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.)

CLOSED SESSION: Commissioner Simpson made a motion to go into closed session for attorney/client privilege discussions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. No action was taken in closed session and the Board returned to regular session upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Simpson.

RECREATION PROPERTY: Acquisition of the Lucille Potts property in Highlands for recreational use was discussed. After a lengthy discussion concerning survey of the property, Ms. Potts retaining use of a portion of the property and other issues concerning the purchase, Commissioner Simpson made a motion to delegate the Chairman of the Recreation Commission to contact Ms. Potts and make an offer of \$475,000 for possession of the entire tract to be closed by October 31, 2007, subject to a suitable survey of the property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, made a motion to amend the motion to authorize Commissioner McClellan rather than the Recreation Commission Chairman, to contact Ms. Potts. The amendment was unanimous.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE TOWN OF HIGHLANDS: The Board discussed issues concerning the operation of the Highlands Recreation programs and the costs involved. Chairman Leatherman designated Commissioner McClellan to schedule a joint meeting with the Town of Highlands prior to the October meeting to discuss the solid waste transfer station and recreation programs.

RECREATION BROCHURE: Commissioner Davis expressed concerns about a brochure being distributed promoting the recreation bond referendum stating the Board of Commissioners had approved the brochure and stated he had not been contacted for approval of the brochure. Other Board members indicated they had not been contacted either. The County Manager was asked to look into who prepared the brochure.

RECESS: The meeting was recessed until September 17th at 6 p.m. at the Boiler Room to meet jointly with the Board of Education to discuss capital projects.

Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Charles D. Leatherman
Board Chairman