

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MAY 26, 2009**  
**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Kupperts gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge to the flag was recited.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** No one registered to speak during public session.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Chairman Beale stated a closed session for personnel needed to be added to the agenda and Finance Director Evelyn Southard stated she had a budget revision to add to item #11B. Commissioner McClellan made a motion to approve the agenda with the two additions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kupperts and all favored.

**REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:**

**HUMANE SOCIETY:** Sharon Archer, Vice President of the Macon County Humane Society, stated the Humane Society has been in operation since 1968 and they want to work in cooperation with the county's animal services to promote the welfare of animals. She stated the Society was concerned about the name of the county's agency and/or facility hoping it would be called animal services rather than animal shelter. She questioned what the opening date would be and stated she understood the county would be euthanizing animals and expressed a willingness of the Humane Society to discuss alternatives to deal with the overpopulation of animals such as spay/neuter programs. Ms. Archer explained the Society can cremate euthanized animals rather than having them taken to the landfill. The Board expressed interest and requested a cost proposal be submitted for the services. The Board expressed appreciation to Ms. Archer and the Humane Society after which Ms. Archer introduced other Humane Society Board members present. A brief discussion concerning delaying implementation of the Animal Control Ordinance followed and it was agreed the effective date would remain as June 1, 2009.

**COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:** Ryan Sherby from Region A gave an update on the county's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) explaining the

new prioritization process and its complexity. He stated funding will still be based on the equity formula but the CTP will identify projects where the county's priorities are for new roads, upgrades, etc. Chairman Beale stated appointment of a CTP Steering Committee is on the agenda and these committee members will go out into the community to listen to citizens to help establish the county's priorities. These priorities will be submitted to a regional six county committee that will then develop a regional prioritization. Chairman Beale and Mr. Sherby both assured the Board that if the local CTP does their work correctly, the county will then have an advantage in the funding process.

**PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN:** Health Director Jim Bruckner briefed the Board on a portion of Senate Bill 202 entitled "Public Health Improvement Plan" and requested adoption of a resolution opposing Section 10.26 of the bill. Mr. Bruckner reported that at a recent meeting of the North Carolina Health Directors all eighty five directors voted to oppose the legislation. Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt the attached resolution opposing the legislation with a copy of the resolution being sent to the County's legislative delegation, NCACC and the other 99 North Carolina counties. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koppers and all favored. **(Attachment #1)**

**SCC EARLY COLLEGE: Lease** – Dr. Connie Haire from Southwestern Community College expressed appreciation to the current board and previous boards for their support of SCC and budgeting for the Early College Program. Dr. Haire explained SCC is in the third year of a five year funding program from the Bill and Linda Gates Foundation and funds allocated by Governor Easley. She added beyond that they cannot be sure of the funding stream. Dr. Haire stated the August project has 150 students in grades nine through twelve. She explained that SCC needed a lease on the new building to expend college funds on the facility and earn state credit for the number of students enrolled. The County Manager and County Attorney explained a new survey was necessary to write the legal description and suggested a thirty year lease at one dollar per year. They advised the lease will be on the June 8<sup>th</sup> for action. **Building name** – Chairman Beale and Dr. Haire stated it had been suggested the Early College Transition Building be named the Oscar J. Ledford Learning Center in honor of Mr. Ledford who was a charter member of the SCC Board of Trustees, county commissioner and holder of several other state and county positions. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted, with honor, to name the building the Oscar J. Ledford Learning Center.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items on the consent agenda: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup> meetings. **Finance** – Approved request for Public School Building Capital Fund NC Education Lottery funds in the amount of \$680,000 per **attachment #2**. Approved the attached budget revision appropriating \$443,000 of Lottery Funds to Debt Service. **(Attachment #3)** **Tax releases** – Approved tax releases in the amount of \$18,731.85. (Note: A print-out of releases is on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager's Office.) **Review Officer** – Adopted a resolution designating Art Provencher, Josh Pope

and Justin Setser as Review Officers for the County of Macon pursuant to General Statutes Section 47-30.2. (Attachment #4)

**APPOINTMENTS: Airport Authority** – Upon motion of Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Harold Corbin and Tommy Jenkins to the Airport Authority contingent upon compliance with legislation creating the Authority. Terms are for six years and will expire June 30, 2015. **Area Agency on Aging** – Upon motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint one commissioner (Beale), alternate Alan Allman, Dot Crawford (Senior Citizen), alternate Melissa Leatherman and Jim Bruckner (Health Director), alternate Jane Kimsey to the Area Agency on Aging. Terms are for three years and will expire June 30, 2012. **Health Board** – Upon motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Paul Higdon representing the general public and Angie Stahl representing pharmacist to the Macon County Health Board. Terms will expire June 30, 2012. **Highlands ETJ Planning Board** – Upon motion of Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Mike Bryson and Allan Bryson to the Highlands ETJ Planning Board. Terms are for four years and will expire June 30, 2013. **Highlands ETJ Zoning Board** – Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Tony Potts to the Highlands ETJ Zoning Board. Term is for four years and will expire June 30, 2013. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Commission** – Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint County Commissioners' representatives Lindsey Gentry, Jolita Jackson, Brian Vogl, Marci Holland, Patricia Clark and Belinda Anderson to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Commission. Terms will expire June 30, 2012. **Southwestern College Community Board of Trustees** – Upon motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to recommend Melvin (Pete) Penland for another term on the SCC Board of Trustees. Term will expire June 30, 2013.

**Comprehensive Transportation Plan Steering Committee** – Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to make the following appointments to the initial Comprehensive Transportation Plan Steering Committee: Chairman Beale, Commissioner Koppers, Planning Board Member Karl Gillespie, County Planning, Permitting and Development Director Jack Morgan, County Planner Derek Roland, a representative from the EDC (Ed Shatley and/or Mark West), Members at large Sharon Taylor, Pam Forshee and Marvin Grant, Highlands Town Alderman Dennis DeWolf and Highlands Zoning Administrator Joe Cooley representing Highlands and Mayor Joe Collins representing Franklin with another appointee being designated by the Town. Making the public aware of committee vacancies was discussed and it was suggested these be posted on the county's website.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session to discuss

personnel. During closed session the Deputy Clerk and Finance Officer were excused. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned with a note that the budget work session on May 19<sup>th</sup> had been recessed until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

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Jack Horton, County Manager  
Clerk to the Board

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Ronnie Beale  
Board Chairman