

At a meeting of the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors held at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st day of April, 2014, at the Cumberland County Circuit Court Room:

Present: William F. Osl, Jr., District 1
Lloyd Banks, Jr., District 2, Chairman
Kevin Ingle, District 3, Vice-Chairman
David Meinhard, District 4
Parker Wheeler, District 5
Vivian Giles, County Administrator / Attorney
Tracie Wright, Finance Director

Absent: NONE

1. Call to Order

Chairman Banks Called the meeting to order.

2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

The Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Banks.

3. Roll Call

County Administrator, Vivian Giles, called the roll.

4. Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Supervisor Meinhard and carried the Board approved the Agenda as presented:

Vote: Mr. Osl – aye Mr. Banks – aye
Mr. Ingle – aye Mr. Meinhard – aye
Mr. Wheeler – aye

5. **Letter of Support for Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project Inc. (SERCAP)**

County Administrator, Vivian Giles, informed the Board that in addition to three organizations who previously contacted the County, the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (SERCAP) is requesting a letter of support from the Board for use with the grant application for the weatherization program in Cumberland County.

On a motion by Supervisor Osl and carried the Board directed the County Administrator to draft a letter of support for SERCAP and their grant application for the weatherization program:

Vote: Mr. Osl – aye Mr. Banks – aye
Mr. Ingle – aye Mr. Meinhard – aye
Mr. Wheeler – aye

6. **USDA Grant – Remaining Funds**

County Administrator, Vivian Giles, informed the Board that there were Federal Grant funds remaining within the Waterline Extension Project. The County requested those funds be used to purchase equipment to maintain the water line system. Rural Development has approved the County's request.

7. **Stormwater Management Program**

County Administrator, Vivian Giles, informed the Board that there is no need for the Board to hold a Public Hearing on the Stormwater Management Ordinance, as was originally thought, because the Governor has signed legislation passed by the General

Assembly allowing localities to elect to have the program in their counties administered by DEQ and not locally.

8. Approval of Bills

Approval of Bills for March 2014 and April 2014. Ratified bills for March warrants total \$269,210.30 with check numbers ranging from 67906 to 68037. Direct Deposits total \$146,784.35.

On a motion by Supervisor Meinhard and carried, the Board approved the bills as presented:

Vote: Mr. Osl – aye Mr. Banks – aye
Mr. Ingle – aye Mr. Meinhard – aye
Mr. Wheeler – aye

9. Presentation of proposed tax rates, budget, CIP

County Administrator Vivian Giles presented the proposed 2014 Tax Rates, FY 2014-15 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2014-15 through 2018-19 to the Board. (A copy of the presentation is in the Official Board File)

10. Public Hearings

a) Proposed 2014 Tax Rates

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing. One citizen stated that the Board needed to lower the tax rates and they haven't done anything to try to lower the taxes, but to raise the tax rate. With no other citizens to speak the Chairman closed the Public Hearing.

b) FY 2014-15 Budget

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing. There were eleven (11) citizens signed up to speak. Their comments for the Board included:

- Many requests for the Board to level fund the School
- One citizen suggested the Board approve a \$0.03 tax increase and to use the reserve funds only when absolutely necessary
- Spoke in favor of funding for Emergency Services
- Requested that the Board discuss increasing revenue options with the Governor.

With no further comments for the Board the Chairman closed the Public Hearing.

c) CIP FY 2014-15 – 2018-19

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing. There were three (3) citizens signed up to speak. All three citizens requested the Board continue to fund the School CIP Projects. Dr. Griffin stated that if there were rollover funds at the end of the budget year, she would recommend to the School Board that they save that money for the next School CIP Project.

With no other citizens signed up to speak, the Chairman closed the Public Hearing. The Chairman then opened the floor for Board member comments.

Supervisor Ingle stated that he appreciates every citizen that comes to the Board meetings to voice their opinions. He also reminded the citizens that the Board already has a tight budget to work with, and because of the lower real estate assessments, the County needed additional revenue more than ever.

Supervisor Osl, with the intent to clarify some misconceptions held by the citizens, stated that according to the Commissioner of Revenue, Julie Phillips, that due to the lowered real estate assessments, a tax rate increase to \$0.78 per hundred dollars, would not yield an increase in revenue for the County. He stated that he is supportive of the schools, and that he is in favor of funding the schools, and that he will take that into the budget discussions. He also stated that he will make sure that the county has the necessary revenues to accomplish that.

Supervisor Meinhard stated that the citizens that are requesting extra money for the School but don't want a tax rate increase need to understand that the county can't have one without the other.

Chairman Banks stated that he was elected to represent the citizens of District 2, and if those citizens do not want a tax rate increase, so he will not vote for a tax rate increase.

11. **Adjourn** – Budget Workshop April 3rd 2014 at 7:00pm in the Cumberland County Circuit Courtroom.

Lloyd Banks, Jr., Chairman

Vivian Giles, County Administrator/County Attorney