

**Windsor, North Carolina**  
**February 20, 2014**  
**Recessed Meeting**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met at 2:00pm on Thursday, February 20, 2014 for a Water District Work Session. The Board recessed their Monday, February 17, 2014 regular meeting. The Board reconvened in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Glass Conference Room located at 106 Dundee Street Windsor, NC. The following members were present or absent:

Present: J. Wallace Perry, Chairman  
Charles L. Smith, Vice-Chairman  
John Trent  
Ronald "Ron" Wesson  
Rick Harrell

Absent: None

Staff Present: County Manager Scott Sauer  
Clerk to the Board Sarah Seredni  
County Attorney Lloyd Smith

Guest(s) Present: Leo Green, III. of Green Engineering

Other staff members present for a portion of the meeting included Assistant County Attorney Jonathan Huddleston.

**RECESS**

Chairman Perry reconvened the meeting.

**Green Engineering progress and status review**

County Manager Sauer provided a short update to the Board regarding the transition of ownership documents for South Windsor Water Association. The documents are being prepared by the County auditor Jeff Best of Car, Riggs & Ingram.

Mr. Leo Green, III of Green Engineering also presented a report to the Board regarding the latest findings of the water system as it relates to: the distribution system, water loss, water supply plan, consumption, progress to date, and South Windsor.

The report details as follows:

The Board was also consulted by Green Engineering about a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) water system which is a computer-controlled system that monitors industrial processes.

Mr. Green informed the Board that a SCADA system would allow the Water Department to get a better handle on the current significant water loss.

County Manager Sauer stated that there is a grant that the County could apply for that would allow the funds to install this system, which would provide improved system management capability for Mr. Ricky Spivey.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to move forward with a grant application that would provide 100% grant funding for a SCADA system. Commissioner Harrell **SECONDED** the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** for the County Attorney, and the County Manager to draft a letter to Dutch regarding Scotch Hall ownership. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Green reviewed grant opportunities for making improvements for the South Windsor Water system, which will be available in September of this year.

Commissioner Wesson made a **MOTION** to move forward with a grant application for the South Windsor Water Association ownership transition. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Sauer reiterated to the Board that Jeff Best was working on the financial documents for the South Windsor Water Association ownership transition to the County.

Mr. Sauer stated that those documents would be available for the Board's review at their Monday, March 3, 2014 regular meeting.

### **Request from Town of Harrellsville for revised water purchase agreement**

County Manager Sauer informed the Board that he had received a call from the Mayor of Harrellsville Robert Dantz regarding a Bulk Purchase Agreement between the Town of Harrellsville and the County.

Currently, the Town and the County have an unmetered, emergency intercommunication between the two systems.

Mayor Dantz inquired about amending that current agreement to include 50,000 gallons of County water per day and was looking to receive a quote regarding that amount of water.

The Board was advised by Green Engineering that it was important to develop a flat rate for water consumption across the Board before committing to providing water to additional areas of the County.

The Board requested that they be provided with a summary of other water rates in other parts of the State in order to compare, and gauge what the County's flat rate could be.

### **Black Rock water construction--final documents**

Assistant County Attorney Jonathan Huddleston provided the Board with an update regarding the final documents for the Black Rock water construction project.

Mr. Roberson presented the capital ordinance as well as a promissory note that would need the Board's approval as construction for the project has already begun.

Commissioner Harrell made a **MOTION** for the Board to approve both the capital ordinance and the promissory note for the Black Rock water construction project. Commissioner Smith **SECONDED** the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Trent raised concerns regarding the Homeowner's Association in the Black Rock area. Mr. Trent recommended that the Board should allow the Homeowner's Association to officially approve the project site once completed to ensure that the grounds are left in suitable condition.

The County would not want to release the last of the balance reserve to the construction company unless the Homeowner's Association is satisfied with the construction site once the project is completed.

Assistant County Attorney Huddleston stated that he can draft a release statement that could be presented to the Homeowner's Association upon completion of the water line installation.

### **Other Business**

The Board discussed the current opportunity to collaborate with the African America Caucus of Bertie County's representative, Patricia Ferguson, on holding a State of the County address event.

The Board discussed the option of a large scale event as well as just releasing a formal report to the local media detailing the current status of many County projects including the recent financial audit, EMS transition, and other current County matters.

The Board had discussed a formal report as early as their Planning Retreat in October 2013 and again at their Planning Retreat in January 2014.

After some discussion, the Board came to a consensus to draft a formal, State of the County report that would be featured on the County website, advertised in the local media, and on other mediums as directed by the Board.

The Board also agreed that a “State of the County” event of some kind should be held prior to the start of the 2014-2015 budget planning season. A date for that event has not yet been set.

The Board would also welcome input from outside agencies, community groups, etc.

County Manager Sauer informed the Board that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) had chosen the date of Wednesday, April 9, 2014 to hold their District Meeting in the County.

The Association has booked the Cashie Convention Center as a location and the event will be catered by the Heritage House Restaurant.

The Board suggested that as the host County, they would like to provide items for a raffle drawing, if possible.

Mr. Sauer also informed the Board that Clerk to the Board Sarah Seredni was now a part of the Ribbon Cutting Committee for the opening of the new Bertie High School. He stated that the initial planning meeting took place at 10:00am on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at the Central Office building.

The Board also discussed the current financial standings of the new high school and reiterated their desire to receive a copy of the Board of Education’s financial audit for FY 2013-2014.

Lastly, Mr. Sauer stated that the Board would be hearing from Mike Barnett of McDavid & Associates in the month of March regarding the scattered housing ordinance and Hook Up programs as he and Planning Development Director Traci White have been collaborating on those initiatives.

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Perry adjourned the meeting at 4:46pm.

---

J. Wallace Perry, Chairman

---

Sarah Seredni, Clerk to the Board