

**May 21, 2012 7:00 P.M.**

**JONES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**JONES COUNTY OFFICE COMPLEX – COMMISSIONERS' ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Zack Koonce, Chairman  
Sondra Ipock-Riggs, Commissioner  
Joseph Wiggins, Commissioner  
Mike Haddock, Commissioner

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Franky J. Howard, County Manager  
Jennifer King, Clerk to the Board  
Aaron Arnette, Attorney  
Melissa Moore-Freeman, Finance Officer

**COMMISSIONER ABSENT:**

Frank Emory, Vice-Chairman

The Chairman called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. A **MOTION** was made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the agenda be approved with the following additions:

**6. NCACC REQUEST CONCERNING S433**

**7. JONES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**8. POLLOCKSVILLE ETJ**

**MOTION** made by Mike Haddock, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the minutes of May 7, 2012, be approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

Jeff Brown, citizen, spoke concerning the failure of the sales tax increase to pass on the ballot. This tax was to be used to help fund public safety in Jones County. Mr. Brown stated that he hopes the Board can get together and find some means of increasing salaries within the Sheriff's Department. He believes the employees would be willing to take an increase in salaries over an additional position. Mr. Brown would like a copy of the budget in order to make suggestions on where the County can "trim fat from the budget" would allow more funding for the Sheriff's Office. He also stated that the Board was intelligent to see that the housing project discussed at an earlier meeting should not be given county funding. Mr. Brown believes that the Sheriff's Department benefits everyone.

Phil Moore, citizen, explained a situation in his community in which he attempted to help previous administration at the Sheriff's Office survey a criminal. He states the previous administration never returned his phone call. Mr. Moore stated we have a department now to be proud of and we should trim things from the budget that do not benefit everyone and provide more funding for our Sheriff's Office. He stated that we are now hearing from other counties about how good our Sheriff's Department is and that people don't want to live in a drug infested county.

William Casper, citizen, states that this is the only Sheriff's Department our County has ever had. There are a lot of people supporting Danny and his deputies.

Russell Metts, citizen, discussed the recent issue with the ACLU. Mr. Metts stated that he has a whole stack of book on the history of the United States that isn't taught in schools anymore because he home schools his children. He stated that the state of our nation is not good and if we do not return to what made us the greatest nation in the world we will fall. Mr. Metts read some scriptures.

### **1. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW**

The Board of Equalization and Review was reconvened.

Wayne Vanderford, Tax Collector, explained that there were no appeals to the Board of Equalization and Review.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board of Equalization and Review be adjourned.

### **2. TAX COLLECTIONS REPORT**

The April Tax Collections Report was presented to the Board showing a total collection of \$5,037,068.19 (92.75%).

### **3. DEBT SETOFF REFUND**

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** a debt setoff refund for John Earl Witherspoon of Dover be approved in the amount of \$35.30.

### **4. GRAND JURY REPORT**

The Commissioners discussed the Grand Jury Report that stated the Commissioners should begin the process or planning for a new jail.

### **5. CLOSED SESSION UNDER NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)**

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board go into Closed Session pursuant with NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss the EMT versus Jones County lawsuit.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board go out of Closed Session.

### **6. NCACC REQUEST CONCERNING S433**

Franky Howard, County Manager, discussed S433 with the Board which would allow the county flexibility for county human services programs. If passed, this will allow counties to have one person serve as both the Social Services Director and Health Director.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs and unanimously carried **THAT** the resolution in support of S433 be approved, a copy of which is marked Exhibit A and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

**7. JONES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Zack Koonce distributed copies of a letter from Jones County Community Development Corporation to the Board.

**8. POLLOCKSVILLE ETJ**

Sondra Ipock-Riggs expressed her concerns over the Pollocksville ETJ. Mrs. Ipock-Riggs is opposed to the ETJ.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

There were no reports from the County Manager.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

*Zack Koonce –*

Mr. Koonce questioned Franky Howard concerning the addition of fees for internet cafes. Mr. Howard is checking into this matter.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Zack Koonce  
Chairman

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Jennifer King  
Clerk to the Board

**EXHIBIT A**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
 ZACK KOONCE, Chairman  
 1539 Ten Mile Fork Rd.  
 Trenton, NC 28585  
 FRANK EMORY, Vice-Chairman  
 8466 Hwy. 41 W.  
 Richlands, NC 28574  
 JOSEPH F. WIGGINS  
 641 Richlands Rd.  
 Trenton, NC 28585  
 SONDRA IPOCK RIGGS  
 862 Riggstown Rd.  
 Pollocksville, NC 28573  
 MIKE HADDOCK  
 2314 Wyse Fork Rd.  
 Trenton, NC 28585



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COUNTY MANAGER  
 FRANKY J. HOWARD  
 P.O. Box 340  
 Trenton, NC 28585  
 COUNTY ATTORNEY  
 JIMMIE B. HICKS  
 P.O. Drawer 889  
 New Bern, NC 28563  
 CLERK TO THE BOARD  
 JENNIFER KING  
 P.O. Box 340  
 Trenton, NC 28585  
 email: jonescounty@cc.jones.nc.us

**RESOLUTION  
 IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 433**

**WHEREAS**, the membership of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners adopted a legislative goal to “allow county flexibility to organize local human services” so counties can offer a more streamlined and efficient government to minimize administrative costs and maximize services for citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina county governments are responsible for administering social services and community health programs with county employees; and

**WHEREAS**, counties cover more than \$500 million per year on DSS administrative costs, while state dollars cover less than 3 percent of these costs; and

**WHEREAS**, a study commissioned by the General Assembly recommended that counties be given flexibility in determining how to organize their local human services delivery programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 433 would provide all counties with the option to determine locally how they can best provide human services to their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 433 overwhelmingly passed the Senate in 2011 with a majority of Senators in both parties in support;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Jones County Board of Commissioners adopts this resolution in support of S433 to “allow county flexibility to organize local human services”;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the General Assembly representing Jones County to let them know of our support for this issue.

Adopted this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2012.



Jennifer King, Clerk to the Board

*Zack A. Koonce*  
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 Zack Koonce, Chairman