

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2014 7:00 P.M.**  
**JONES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JONES COUNTY OFFICE COMPLEX – COMMISSIONERS’ ROOM**  
**MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Sondra Ipock-Riggs, Vice-Chairman  
Joseph Wiggins, Commissioner  
Frank Emory, Commissioner  
Zack Koonce, Commissioner

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Franky J. Howard, County Manager  
Melissa Moore-Freeman, Clerk  
Samuel Croom, Tax Collector

The Chairman called the meeting to order. Commissioner Joseph Wiggins gave the invocation. **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Frank Emory, and unanimously carried **THAT** the agenda be **APPROVED** with the following amendments:

**5. PROPERTY TAX EXCLUSIONS**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Zack Koonce, and unanimously carried **THAT** the minutes of September 2, 2014 Regular Session and September 8, 2014 Special Meeting be **APPROVED**.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

There were no public comments.

**1. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

Mr. Eric Merritt, Emergency Management Coordinator had previously presented a copy of the plan to all the commissioners for their review. Mr. Merritt explained to the commissioners the plan must be reviewed annually and small changes were required with our transition of 911 dispatching to Lenoir County. Mr. Merritt explained all changes must be approved by the commissioners. Mr. Merritt inquired if the commissioners had any questions or concerns. There were no questions. Mr. Merritt requested the Board to please approve the changes made to the Emergency Operations Plan. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Zack Koonce and unanimously carried **THAT** the Emergency Operation Plan be **APPROVED** as presented. A copy of the plan is available in the Emergency Management office as well as online. Commissioner Frank Emory praised Mr. Merritt for the job he is doing in Emergency Management. Commissioner Zack Koonce informed Mr. Merritt the emails sent by Mr. Merritt in emergency situations were very helpful and informative.

**2. REQUEST OF PUBLIC HEARING ROAP**

Mr. Franky Howard informed the Board, the County had received grant funding from the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the ROAP program. The grant process requires the County to hold a public hearing for questions and concerns regarding the grant and programs. Mr. Howard requested the Board schedule a public hearing for October 6, 2014 at 8:30 am. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Frank Emory, seconded by

Commissioner Zack Koonce and unanimously carried **THAT** a public hearing be **SCHEDULED** for October 6, 2014 at 8:30 am. The hearing will allow citizens to express their concerns and questions in reference to the ROAP application.

### **3. RESOLUTION-IMMIGRATION**

Mr. Franky Howard presented a letter from Surry County requesting the Board approve a resolution regarding the resettling of illegal immigrants in the United States. Commissioner Sondra Ipock-Riggs expressed her concerns with the resolution and feels this is matter to be determined by federal and state officials. Commissioner Joseph Wiggins stated he was not familiar enough with the current status to support a resolution at this time. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Frank Emory, seconded by Zack Koonce and unanimously carried **THAT** this item be **TABLED** until additional information is obtained to determine if the Board would like to support the cause and approve their own resolution.

### **4. CLOSED SESSION 143.318.11(a) (3)**

Mr. Franky Howard requested the Board go into to closed session based upon GS 143.318.11(a) (3). **MOTION** made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Zack Koonce and unanimously carried **THAT** the board go into Closed Session. **MOTION** by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Frank Emory **THAT** the Board exit closed session.

### **5. PROPERTY TAX EXCLUSIONS**

Mr. Samuel Croom presented the Board with a list of late property tax exclusions. Two exclusions were elderly requests, one disable exclusion and one present-use value. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Zack Koonce and unanimously carried **THAT** the exclusions be **APPROVED** as presented. A copy of the list of taxpayers is marked Exhibit A and is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

There were no reports from Mr. Howard.

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

*Commissioner Zack Koonce* informed the Board he had stopped by the jail and it looks great. Current jailers have requested the old 911 equipment needs to be moved out the dispatch area. Jailers indicated they needed an additional jailer with the move of one jailer to the sheriff office. Upgrading the air conditioner at the courthouse needs to be a priority.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Joseph Wiggins, seconded by Commissioner Frank Emory, and unanimously carried **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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Mike Haddock  
Chairman

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Melissa Moore-Freeman  
Clerk to the Board

## **EXHIBIT A**

Jared P. Kennish, Present-Use Value (late application)

Betty L. Waters, Elderly Exclusion (late application)

Roy Allen Tucker, Disabled Exclusion (late application)

Charles Donnie Brown, Elderly Exclusion (late application)