

**GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSINERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2010**

The Gates County Board of Commissioners reconvened in Regular Session on Monday, March 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, 202 Court Street, Gatesville, NC. Commissioners Twine, Jernigan, Askew, Nickens and Jordan were present. Also present was County Manager, Toby Chappell and County Attorney, Pitt Godwin.

A prayer was led by Commissioner Jordan. Chairman Twine led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Twine called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Twine stated the agenda needed to be amended by adding an item under New Business and Jonathan Jones requests to be removed.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with amendments. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Old Business

Mr. Chappell presented changes to the Gates County Personnel Ordinance by the Personnel Board. He also has an additional change in reference to State employees: Section 1.4 e) All employees are subject to the Gates County Personnel Ordinance unless the Department is governed by the State Personnel Act. When the Gates County Personnel Ordinance and the State Personnel Act conflict these Departments will be governed by the State Personnel Act.

Commissioner Askew made a motion to accept the Personnel Ordinance changes. Commissioner Nickens seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Timothy Hedgepeth, Water Department Supervisor, presented a proposal for a bi-monthly water meter reading and billing at a cost savings of \$25,380 per year.

Chairman Twine opened the public meeting for the Water Department proposal.

George Walters, Gates, questioned the billing rates. The rates were explained by Mr. Hedgepeth.

Becky Darden questioned if the convenience site fee would also be doubled.

Mr. Hedgepeth explained that the convenience site fee would also be doubled.

John Hora, Eure, stated he felt a pre-paid program needed to be implemented.

Joe Greene, Eure, stated he felt the pre-paid program would confuse the citizens.

Commissioner Askew stated he would like to see the implementation of meters that could be read electronically.

Mr. Hedgepeth stated the new meters that could be read electronically would be expensive.

George Walters, Gates, questioned if the County was treating the water.

Mr. Hedgepeth stated the Gates County Water Department treats the water.

Thomas Langston, questioned if the same people appeared repeatedly on the cut-off list.

Mr. Hedgepeth stated basically the same people appeared repeatedly.

George Walters questioned if the cut-off list was composed of elderly people.

Mr. Hedgepeth stated it was not the elderly on the cut-off list.

Commissioner Jordan stated the basis of this proposal is to save the County money and free up time of the Water Department employees.

Chairman Twine closed the public meeting.

New Business

Mr. Chappell discussed a letter received from The Rural Center congratulating Gates County on a \$345,000 award for the Gates County Family Fun Center Sewer Improvements. This grant is contingent upon matching funds from Golden Leaf which have already been denied. The EDA grant has also been denied. Mr. Chappell suggested to table this matter at this time.

Commissioner Jordan requested to have this matter placed as an agenda item until the deadline date of August 24, 2010.

Chairman Twine stated funds are not available at this time to repair the library. He would like to explore the possibility of building a new library.

Commissioner Jordan questioned the cost of a new library versus spending on infrastructure.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to explore the possibility of constructing a new library. Commissioner Askew seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

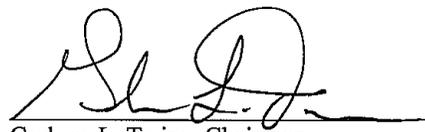
George Walters stated the County could use a vocational center.

Commissioner Jernigan stated Mr. Walters needed to discuss his concern with the Board of Education since the high school removed trades instruction from the curriculum.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Jordan presented a copy of a Noise Ordinance. He asked Mr. Chappell to review the ordinance and update the County's existing Noise Ordinance in an effort to help the OLF effort.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.



Graham L. Twine, Chairman



Diane R. Hendrix, Clerk

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