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Gaston County Board
of Commissioners

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GASTON COUNTY

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

NORTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY 9, 2016

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met in Rescheduled Session on February 9, 2016, immediately following its Work Session, at 7:12 pm in The Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Public Forum, Gaston County Courthouse.

Chairman Tom Keigher presided with Commissioners Jason Williams, Vice-Chairman; Chad Brown, Joe D. Carpenter, Allen R. Fraley, Tracy L. Philbeck and Mickey Price in attendance.

Others present included Earl Mathers, County Manager; Charles L. Moore, County Attorney; and Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board.

Upon request of Chairman Keigher, Reverend David Christy of First United Methodist Church, Gastonia, NC, led those assembled in the Invocation and Commissioner Keigher led in the Pledge of Allegiance during the preceding Work Session.

Agenda Revision/Approval

- Moved to Non-Consent/ Commissioner Williams - Public Works - *To Approve Demolition of the Old Nurse's Dormitory on South New Hope Road and Appropriate Necessary Funding (\$90,000) - V.*

On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously approved the Agenda of February 9, 2016 with changes as noted above.

Citizen Recognition

None.

Consent Agenda

On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 2016-040 Commissioner Keigher - Animal Care and Enforcement - Approved the Animal Care and Enforcement Advisory Board Revised By laws as filed with the Clerk to the Board.**
- 2016-041 Commissioner Keigher - Cooperative Extension - Accepted and Appropriated Additional 4-H Healthy Harvest Gardening Program Workshop Fees per Budget Change Request:**

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Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Coop Ext Serv Spec Proj	10-4950-4950-891-500		[4590]
Fee Based Programs Food/Supplie	10-4950-4950-298-000	15226-0001	4590

2016-042 Commissioner Keigher - County Manager - Accepted Departmental Budget Change Requests as Information as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Project #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>#4131 Budget & Purchasing</u>			
Professional Services - Medical	10-4360-193-000		(1,067)
Uniforms	10-4360-212-000		1,067
<u>#4131 Budget & Purchasing</u>			
Salaries	10-4920-121-000		(4,500)
Salaries	10-4920-4920-121-000		4,500
<u>#4140 Tax</u>			
Temporary Salary	10-4140-393-000		(872)
Salaries - Longevity Pay	10-4140-127-000		872
<u>#4210 IT</u>			
Salaries	10-4210-121-000		(1,290)
Salaries - Longevity Pay	10-4210-127-000		1,290
<u>#4265-4250 Public Works - Fleet</u>			
Employee Development	10-4265-4250-395-000		(60)
Dues & Subscriptions	10-4265-4250-491-000		60
<u>#4310 County Police</u>			
Salaries	10-4310-4310-121-000		(1,049)
Salaries - Longevity	10-4310-4310-127-000		1,049
<u>#4315 Sheriff's Office</u>			
Salaries	10-4315-4315-121-000		(20,000)
Overtime	10-4315-4315-122-000		20,000
<u>#4380 Animal Care & Enforcement</u>			
Special Programs - Pre-Employment	10-4380-298-000	16097-0001	(4,327)
Special Programs - Feral Cat Spay/Neute	10-4380-298-000	16200-0001	4,327
<u>#4520 DHHS - Social Services</u>			
ACCESS Admin Salaries	10-4520-4520-121-000		(1,210)
ACCESS Admin Longevity	10-4520-4520-127-000		1,210
ACCESS Operations Salaries	10-4520-4521-121-000		(112)
ACCESS Operations Longevity	10-4520-4521-127-000		112
<u>#4960 Natural Resources</u>			
Office Supplies/Materials	10-4960-260-000		(1,000)
Education Materials/Supplies	10-4960-231-000		(1,000)
Books	10-4960-293-000		(500)
Vehicle Maintenance - Parts	10-4960-253-000		2,000
Repairs & Maintenance - Vehicles	10-4960-353-000		500
<u>#5100 DHHS - Public Health</u>			
Retirement	11-5100-5140-5141-182-000		(1,419)
Longevity	11-5100-5140-5141-127-000		1,419

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<u>#5100 DHHS - Public Health</u>			
Professional Services - Other	11-5100-5114-5125-199-000		(2,000)
Employee Development/Training	11-5100-5114-5128-395-000		2,000
Professional Services - Other	11-5100-5114-5126-199-000		(1,000)
Employee Development/Training	11-5100-5114-5126-395-000		1,000
Laboratory Supplies	11-5100-5114-5128-234-000		(4,000)
Mobile Telephone Use	11-5100-5114-5125-321-010		4,000
<u>#5600 DHHS - Social Services</u>			
Nutrition Salaries	20-5600-5622-121-000		(20)
Nutrition Longevity	20-5600-5622-127-000		20
In Home Aide Salaries	20-5600-5623-121-000		(91)
In Home Aide Longevity	20-5600-5623-127-000		91
Gastonia ADC Salaries	20-5600-5640-121-000		(88)
Gastonia ADC Longevity	20-5600-5640-127-000		88
E Gaston ADC Salaries	20-5600-5650-121-000		(128)
E Gaston ADC Longevity	20-5600-5650-127-000		128
CAPDA Salaries	20-5600-5660-121-000		(107)
CAPDA Longevity	20-5600-5660-127-000		107
<u>#5600 DHHS - Social Services</u>			
Equip/Furn: \$250-\$4,999	20-5600-5622-530-000		(400)
Repairs & Maintenance/Equipment	20-5600-5622-352-000		400
<u>#6120 Parks & Recreation</u>			
Recreation Programming	10-6120-298-000	16091-0001	(700)
Printing	10-6120-341-000		700

2016-043 Commissioner Fraley - County Manager - Accepted Township Grant Budget Change Requests as Information Only per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16240-0001	(3,500,000)
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16257-0001	500,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16258-0001	300,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16258-0002	125,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16258-0003	75,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0001	10,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0002	110,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0003	55,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0004	144,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0005	227,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0006	180,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0007	45,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0008	45,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0009	33,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0010	75,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16259-0011	76,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0001	90,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0002	125,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0003	76,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0004	66,500
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0005	55,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16260-0006	87,500
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16261-0001	156,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16261-0002	14,000

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Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16261-0003	80,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16261-0004	250,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16262-0001	88,500
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16262-0002	20,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16262-0003	25,000
Special Grants	40-4110-620-000	16262-0004	366,500

2016-044 Commissioner Price - DHHS (Social Services Division) - Accepted and Appropriated 2nd Quarter Donations per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Donations	20-5582-840-501		(15,238)
Shelter Private Grants	20-5582-891-518		(51,431)
Special Programs: Donations	20-5582-298-000	08162-0001	66,669
Donations	20-5600-840-501		(1,878)
Special Programs: Donations	20-5600-298-000	08159-0001	1,378
Special Programs: Donations	20-5600-298-000	15259-0001	917
Home Delivered Meals/Donations	20-5600-5622-840-504		(417)
Donations: Residential Child Care	20-5867-840-507		(1,170)
Special Programs: General	20-5867-298-000	16210-0001	570
Special Programs: Emergency Asst	20-5867-298-000	16211-0001	600

2016-045 Commissioner Brown - Fire Marshal - Approved the Finance Arrangements and a Certificate of Need for Crowder's Mountain Volunteer Fire & Rescue, Inc. to Obtain Financing (\$55,800) to Purchase Three Complete Sets of Hurst Edraulic Extrication Tools to Replace Their Current Non Serviceable Units as Approved by the Fire Advisory Board on January 11, 2016.

2016-046 Commissioner Carpenter - Finance - Accepted as Information the Property Tax Refunds Less Than \$100 to be recorded in the Board's Minutes as follows:

GASTON COUNTY, NC - LISTING OF PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS LESS THAN \$100.00 FOR REAL PROPERTY TO BE REPORTED AT THE FEBRUARY 9, 2016 BOARD MEETING

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT	TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
AB CARTER INC	3.00	JEREMY WORLEY	3.00
ALL THINGS COLLECTIBLE	11.94	JIMMY JONES	12.60
ANNE CALDWELL	22.02	JOHN BROYLES	1.94
ANTHONY DRUM	6.10	JOHN E FREEMAN LIVING REV TR	60.00
ANTHONY THURMAN, JR	27.00	JOHN MOORE	50.00
ARNOLD BRADSHAW	57.30	JOHN W FINGER	93.39
ARNOLD BRADSHAW	67.90	JOHNNY R FRADY	3.49
ARNOLD BRADSHAW	75.63	JON MOORE	3.25
ARTHURS & FOLTZ LLP	88.25	JONATHAN DAVID BAITY	12.95
AURELIA PRESSLEY	22.00	JOSEPH PILKINGTON	55.16
BEASLEY FM ACQUISITION CORP	2.09	JOSEPH PILKINGTON II	78.95
BECKY LITTLEJOHN	80.40	KATHY CLARK GOINS	2.63
BETTY DIXON LITTLEJOHN	13.88	KEMMITT PRICE	45.97
BETTY LITTLE	2.00	KENNETH PASOUR	3.00
BETTY NEESMITH	15.57	LE NGOC THACH	26.93
BETTY SEAY	8.00	LEE TROUTMAN	35.59
BILLY HORN	26.35	LISA MCALISTER	62.00
BIT OF HOPE RANCH INC	2.33	LOREN CARSON PACKARD	1.80
BIT OF HOPE RANCH INC	5.24	LUCY MAUNEY	41.00
BOYCE O'TUEL	65.00	M MELTON SONANNE	73.65
BRIAN BUZZEO	19.33	MARGARET E SHIELDS	81.51
C ALLEN BUSLER	9.90	MARY JOHNSON	67.00
CAROL BROWN	5.89	MARY MCDANIEL	10.00
CAROLINA RENTAL PROPERTIES	40.00	MELVIN KISER	98.45

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CHARLES CARPENTER	4.00	MELVINA DIAL	26.20
CHARLES GRAHAM	74.78	NAIL CITY	26.79
CHRISTOPHER CASH	4.57	NANCY MURPHY MANNING	6.53
CLARK PROPS OF KINGS MTN LLC	1.78	NATIONAL MILLS LLC	17.49
CLYDE FORTNER	82.96	NC CVS/ADP	72.80
CRYSTAL HORNE	1.69	NELTON GLENN WILEY	11.67
CURTIS GIBBS	2.52	NORMA LOU MUNN	3.00
CURTIS TATE	10.00	OPEN ARMS HOLINESS CHURCH	20.32
DANIEL HENDERSON	10.00	OUTLAW TOOL SUPPLY INC	78.26
DARRELL M CURRENCE	13.54	PAIGE COUPER	5.41
DARRYL CLONINGER	21.84	PAMELA H GRINDSTAFF	60.59
DAWN BUCKLEY	2.00	PASOUR RENTALS LLC	25.00
DEBRA BRADLEY	20.00	PAUL JENKS	1.89
DENNIS HOVIS	10.00	QUALITY HOME CARE MANAGEMENT INC	9.00
DONALD HUFFSTETLER	50.00	RADIO TRAINING NETWORK	33.39
DORIS BRIGHT	2.00	REBECCA PEELER	28.77
DORIS REEP	3.00	RICHARD HAMBRICK	39.39
EDWARD SMITH	55.58	RICHARD WEIR	39.49
ERVIN STONE	10.00	RICK RICHARD	8.50
EUGENE CARROLL	47.94	RIGHT WAY EXTERIOR SOLUTIONS	7.56
EUNICE BARTON	6.40	RIO LIN ROX	32.00
FRANCES COPE	28.28	ROBERT DUKE	10.00
FRANCES ROBERTA RICHARDSON	29.19	ROBERT STOWE	3.69
GASTON HUMANE SOCIETY INC	1.06	ROBIN MASTERS	67.98
GASTON HUMANE SOCIETY INC	2.64	RUTH MILWOOD	41.80
GASTON HUMANE SOCIETY INC	2.67	SAVAT VONGKHAMCHANH	47.28
GENERAL PROJECTS INC	5.35	SONANNE MELTON	84.24
GRAPHELIA RAMSEUR	2.70	SPARKLING CLEAN JANITORIAL SERVICE	2.46
HAZEL PAYSEUR	3.88	STEPHEN ROLLINS	1.34
HILDA ROSS	45.00	THOMAS/GODLEY PLLC	5.00
HOUSER PROPERTY INVESTORS LLC	45.00	VANCE WHITTED	3.08
HOWARD DUNN	76.27	VIRGINIA S GRAYSON	5.52
J ALLEN OXFORD	93.62	WALTER LOVE	87.40
JACKY WARD	4.00	WALTER SETTLEMYRE	7.48
JAMES D GRIFFIN	49.76	WATSON INSURANCE AGENCY INC	37.89
JAMES MARTIN	10.00	WILLIAM F WILSON	20.00
JANET BLACK	67.50	WILLIAM W BRIDGEMAN, JR	6.45
JANET S MILLER	53.51	WIRELESS UNIVERSAL	7.10
JEREMY CARPENTER	55.25	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS	3,604.42

GASTON COUNTY, NC - LISTING OF PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS LESS THAN \$100.00 FOR VEHICLES
TO BE REPORTED AT THE FEBRUARY 9, 2016 BOARD MEETING

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT	TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
CARL MESSER	5.76	MISTY BLANKENSHIP	53.29
CHRISTOPHER DIXON	19.15	MONTE FOX	12.82
CHRISTOPHER HANNON	1.06	MONTE FOX	60.18
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA, LLC	2.63	REGINA GLEATON	12.79
ERIKA BRATTON	6.18	STEPHEN LOVE	40.19
JONATHAN BAITY	76.00	SYLVIA GLADDEN	97.27
JONATHAN MCCORKLE	90.71	TAJANAE LA BRIA BARNES	42.98
KAYE BENNETT	22.65	THOMAS ADAIR	13.66
LA SHANDA REGINA GLEATON	21.05	THOMAS LITTLE	12.39
LATOYA CLARK	6.70	TIMOTHY LEONHARDT	88.01
MAKAYLA GAYLORD	3.38	TONYA BEATY	29.48
MELISSA HARMON	44.41	WARREN L TADLOCK	27.06
MISTY BLANKENSHIP	4.56	WILLIAM FOX	6.35
		TOTAL HB20 REFUNDS	800.71

VTS REFUNDS			
ADAMS, CHRISTOPHER	11.47	MCDANIEL, RITA KAY	17.58
ARREDONDO, ARTURO FABELA	18.31	MCGINNIS, ADRIANNE NICOLE	83.11
AURTY, JAMIE TERESA	36.70	MCKNIGHT, EMILY JANE	77.31
BEHELER, TINA LOUISE	93.53	MCNEILL, ANTWAN TERRELL	38.55
BENDIT, MARK ANDREW	30.91	MEAKIN, CHARLES JAMES	69.77
BLACK, TERRY DEAN	43.78	MECKLER, JEFFREY DAVID	38.09

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BOWEN, WILLIAM GREGORY	69.47	METZ, JOSEPH KENT	11.41
BRIGMAN, CARY MCKENZIE	18.22	PATEL, DEVIYANI JAYESH	68.59
BRIGMAN, CARY MCKENZIE	3.50	PATEL, YANCEY AMRUTLAL	21.37
CAPPS, JACQUELINE ABSHER	29.60	PAYNE, RICHARD SCOTT	14.97
CARPENTER, JOHN ALTON	6.95	PRUETTE, ROY CALVIN	73.79
CHUKES, CHARLES ALLEN	5.57	RAILEY, KENNETH DAVID	50.60
CLARK, JAMES EUGENE	60.57	RATCHFORD, GEORGE LYTLE JR	42.99
DOWELL, MICHAEL ANTHONY	31.84	RATCHFORD, GEORGE LYTLE JR	37.97
FRALEY, MELVIN EUGENE	60.74	RATCHFORD, GEORGE LYTLE JR	34.34
GARDO, TRENT SCOTT	42.29	RATCHFORD, GEORGE LYTLE JR	37.15
GARRISON, EDWARD DARRILL	73.54	RODGERS, TODD CHRISTIAN	21.36
GERESSY, MICHAEL ROBERT	36.02	ROSEMAN, ERNEST OSCAR III	35.31
HARRIS, MELVIN	98.88	RUPPEL, JASON JOHN	28.89
HINES, FLOYD GENE	4.49	SCHOENFELD, MICHAEL JOSEPH	39.45
HOLLAR, MARK HOLEMAN	47.50	SEVEARANCE, RANDY FRED	46.24
HUFF, SHARON MARIE	36.65	SHERRILL'S BACKHOE & LANDSCAPING SERVICES, INC.	9.70
J&R CONSTRUCTION OF THE CAROLINAS	5.12	SHORT, ANN BOWERS	25.72
J&R CONSTRUCTION OF THE CAROLINAS	5.76	STALDER, ANDREW ERNEST	21.99
J&R CONSTRUCTION OF THE CAROLINAS	11.50	STROOT, ANDREA CHRISTINE	30.44
JENKINS, ELIZABETH CLEMMER	84.19	WAGGONER, LONNIE AUSTINE III	78.12
KISER, WILLIAM HENRY II	7.87	WOOD, CRAIG ROBERT	14.58
LANCASTER, INEZ	37.81	ZIELONKA, MARTHA	11.78
LAND, RICHARD HARRISON	44.53		
LAWRENCE, ALEX RYAN	35.94		
MATHIS, JOSHUA DEAN	18.11		
MCABEE, ROBERT DAVID	6.23		
		TOTAL VTS REFUNDS	2,198.76
		TOTAL VEHICLE REFUNDS	2,999.47

2016-047 Commissioner Keigher - Clerk to the Board - Accepted as Information the FY2016-17 Community Services Block Grant Application as filed with the Clerk to the BOC.

2016-048 Commissioner Fraley - GEMS - Appropriated Funds for New Ambulance Stretcher Retention Systems per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Fund Balance: Appropriated	10-9900-991-500		(\$56,147)
Motor Vehicles	10-4370-540-000		\$30,233
Motor Vehicles	10-4372-540-000		\$25,914

2016-049 Commissioner Keigher - Human Resources - Accepted and Appropriated Vending Machine Revenue per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Fund Balance App	10-9900-991-500		(580)
Choice USA Commission	10-4122-412-519		(6,980)
Special Programs (Emp. Recog.)	10-4122-298-000	16036-0001	7,560

2016-050 Commissioner Philbeck - Planning - Approved and Appropriated the Request for a \$10,000 Transportation Planning Grant from the GCLMPO to be Used for the County's 2035 Land Use Plan Land Use and Transportation Elements, and Approved the County's 20% Local Match of \$2,500 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Project Subproject	Amount
Highway Planning & Construction	10-4910-4910-220-539		(10,000)
Postage	10-4910-4910-325-000		(1,250.00)
Advertising	10-4910-4911-370-000		(1,250.00)
Professional Services	10-4910-4910-199-000		\$12,500

2016-051 Commissioner Keigher - Public Works - Awarded a Construction Contract for the

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George Poston Park Phase III Project (NCDOT TIP: EB 5533) Totaling \$624,444.44 to Countryboy Landscaping, Inc., directed the County Attorney to draft all necessary contract documents and authorized the County Manager to execute said documents in an amount not to exceed \$624,444.44 per the following bids:

Countryboy Landscaping, Inc.,	Harmony, NC	\$624,444.44
DD Walker Construction Company	Charlotte, NC	\$851,081.01
Quinn Sales, Inc.	Gastonia, NC	\$650,164.99
Little Mountain Builders	Maiden, NC	\$718,976.10

2016-052 Commissioner Philbeck - Public Works - Authorized the County Manager to Execute an Architect/Engineering Design Contract with Stewart Cooper Newell Architects for the New Gaston County Animal Care and Control Facility at a Cost Not to Exceed \$393,450 and authorized the County Attorney to draft the necessary contract documents.

2016-053 Commissioner Price - Sheriff's Office - Commendation - Awarded the Service Side Arm and Badge to Retired Sheriff's Sergeant Fay Costner for over 16 years of dedicated service.

2016-054 Commissioner Price - Sheriff's Office - Commendation - Awarded the Service Side Arm and Badge to Retired Sheriff's Captain David Yelton for over 16 years of dedicated service.

2016-055 Commissioner Fraley - Tax - Uncollected Real Estate Taxes and Lien Advertisement as follows:

Gaston County	\$8,299,815.84
Belmont	\$187,224.75
Bessemer City	\$340,587.28
Cherryville	\$113,737.25
Cramerton	\$71,593.26
Dallas	\$69,824.41
Gastonia	\$1,601,523.38
Gastonia Downtown Svc Dist	\$18,584.29
High Shoals	\$12,696.06
Kings Mountain	\$19,496.10
Lowell	\$77,230.73
McAdenville	\$7,633.05
Ranlo	\$52,640.02
Spencer Mountain	\$0.00
Stanley	\$90,988.95
Agriculture Center Fire District	\$23,821.25
Alexis Fire District	\$15,118.37
Chapel Grove Fire District	\$25,882.36
Chestnut Ridge Fire District	\$7,590.57
Community Fire District	\$27,699.18
Crouse Fire District	\$5,913.48
East Gaston Fire District	\$20,329.24
High Shoals Fire District	\$13,398.83
Hughs Pond Fire District	\$9,912.81
Long Shoals Fire District	\$4,142.67
Lucia-Riverbend Fire District	\$22,070.63

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New Hope Fire District	\$17,063.83
Ranlo Fire District	\$14,121.81
South Gastonia Fire District	\$38,553.87
South Point Fire District	\$10,070.11
Spencer Mountain Fire District	\$21,120.31
Tryonota Fire District	\$22,633.70
Union Road Fire District	\$22,049.90
Waco Fire District	\$1,717.40
Lowell Fire District	\$1,157.43
TOTAL	\$11,287,943.12

2016-056 Commissioner Keigher - Tax - Commendation - Commended Mr. James D. Tanner and the Gaston County Tax Office Upon Being Awarded the Joseph E. Hunt Distinguished Jurisdiction Award at the November, 2015 North Carolina Assessors Association Conference for the Implementation of the Taxpayer Appeal Assistance Program.

2016 LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

2016-057 Board of Commissioners - Legislative Request: Legislative Agenda for the 2016 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, the BOC unanimously approved **2016-057** as follows:

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has worked for many years to strengthen and diversify Gaston County's economy and to encourage the growth of safe and healthy communities; and,

WHEREAS, job creation, economic development, education, healthy communities, public safety and quality of life are adopted priorities of the Commission and are important guiding principles for future policy decisions; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners recognizes that State policies, programs and investments can have a significant influence on local policy-making; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has identified numerous goals for consideration and support during the 2016 General Assembly Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests the Gaston County Delegation to the North Carolina General Assembly to:

1. Focus on Economic Development: Support tax policy to promote advancement of a business climate in Gaston County that fosters competitiveness, encourages new investment and provides for the expansion of current industry to support the local workforce by:
 - Supporting the continued efforts toward elimination of the NC Corporate Tax. Commissioners have supported the reduction from 5% to 4% on January 1, 2016, with a 3% triggered when the corporate tax proceeds exceed \$21 Billion statewide
 - Opposing targeted taxes, policies and rules that would impede business development
 - Supporting changes in 2015 sales tax policy that has negatively impacted Gaston business development due to unintended consequences
 - Continued Support of (LOST) Local Option Sales Tax and maintain dedicated revenue for economic development (approximately \$84.8M statewide in 2016-2017)
 - Supporting the reduction of the Franchise Tax

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2. Support job creation and retention efforts; fully fund job recruitment efforts and support various economic developments tools by:
 - Maintaining economic development programs of Golden Leaf Foundation
 - Maintaining the Governor's One NC Fund's competitiveness and effectiveness by continuation of the 2015 Commissioners goals that modified the local match
 - Supporting the creation of a Site and Building Development Fund. The subsidized loan fund would create access to capital for land acquisition, building construction, or building renovation in order to market property ready for lease or sale for industry job expansion
 - Continuing support for workforce development through the Community College system
 - Supporting environmental regulatory policy that is balanced to protect natural resources and be friendly to the manufacturing base
 - Supporting State investment in rural infrastructure of water and sewer. (March bond referendum has \$310M in competitive grants.)
3. Support funding for travel and tourism, historic preservation, land conservation, state parks and the arts in North Carolina as it spurs economic development by:
 - Supporting Crowder's Mountain State Park; (\$750,000 in the March bond referendum)
 - Supporting Mountain Island Educational State Forest
4. Protect the proceeds from lottery ticket sales to be preserved for education spending as originally intended and restore the statutory requirement that 40% of net lottery proceeds be allocated to counties for school capital needs.
5. Support more appointments of Gaston County residents, who are interested, to statewide boards and commissions. Specific commissions of interest include, but are not limited to: Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, Board of Transportation, Property Tax Commission, Partnership for Children, Local Government Retirement System, Local Government Commission and Housing Finance Agency.
6. Support North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' legislative priorities; most importantly, oppose unfunded mandates and any shifts of State responsibilities to counties.
7. Support Transportation Funding by:
 - Continuing efforts to fund transportation infrastructure in North Carolina based on statistical need criteria
 - Supporting the funding of transportation improvements required for new business and industry
 - Supporting the development of innovative and sustainable methods of funding transportation and infrastructure projects to meet the needs of our growing population, including a mix of funding methods such as bonds, public-private partnerships, local option revenue, and new revenue sources
 - Opposing the shifting of road maintenance to local governments without the associated funding
 - Endorsing a coordinated effort between government entities and respective agencies to address infrastructure planning
 - Supporting highway interchange improvements that increase the visibility and vitality of area businesses while meeting all safety and commuter standards
 - Supporting LOCAL Funding Priorities which include:
 - Widening of Interstate 85
 - Highway 321 Interchange
 - Bridge over Catawba River (South Fork Crossing/Catawba Crossing)
8. Address disparities in education funding between Counties. Request a Study Commission of all Stakeholders in Education Funding to review disparities and make recommendations to the NCGA. The Public School Forum of NC cites the need for such a study and equalization of funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Gaston County Legislative Delegation to the NC General Assembly and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

2016-058 Commissioners Carpenter & Philbeck - Legislative Request: To Request Legislation for a Referendum to Authorize an Optional One Cent Sales Tax to be Dedicated to Improving Gaston County's Transportation Infrastructure

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Commissioner Carpenter introduced the motion to approve, and Commissioner Philbeck provided the second.

Chairman Keigher called for discussion.

Commissioner Brown advised he would support the citizens right to make their opinion heard on this issue.

Commissioner Philbeck advised that Representative Bumgardner stated earlier he would not support a tax increase; the Delegation asked the BOC to support a bond referendum to be voted on by our citizens, then conversely, indicated they did not support giving the citizens the right to vote on this particular issue. Regarding the Governor's bond, he noted that there would be no tax increase since old debt is rolling off; taxes could actually be reduced if the bond referendum is not held; believes the citizens deserve a right to vote on fixing certain roads and paying for it via an additional sales tax; figures have shown that 40% of that revenue will be paid by those who live out of County. There are infrastructure issues in the County that need to be addressed; believes the State has a plan, however, the **Carolina Journal** reported that there is a \$60B gap in that funding, furthermore, as the Legislature changes so do priorities and this plan is not set in stone; Pennies for Progress will allow the citizens to vote on specific roads; once those roads are built the tax stops; think we all can agree that local control in local government is the best form of government; allowing our citizens to vote on this issue is the right thing to do.

Commissioner Carpenter advised that the York, South Carolina Pennies for Progress (penny sales tax) initiative passed by 270 votes the first time that it was voted on for specific roads; every penny of it came back to York County; they combined that money with other federal/state monies; the road system sparked other economic development and the initiative would do the same thing here; one way to grow out of our higher tax rate is to create more tax base; 40% of York County's one cent sales tax comes from people outside of its county; a sales tax is fair and equitable. Concluding his comments, Commissioner Carpenter encouraged citizens to support it and to let our Legislators know they have the right to vote on it.

Commissioner Price concurred with voting on it and sending it to Raleigh although it would be DOA (dead on arrival) as stated by our representatives; BOC needs to send it this year and next year too; asked how County could get a bridge into Mecklenburg County request rated in the transportation system new formula.

Commissioner Carpenter advised it is on the MPO's list to be evaluated on the next selection of projects to be built; that system is based on points; MPO left two river crossing projects from West Boulevard in Charlotte to 274 near the speedway on the list which would eliminate 12k cars off I-85.

Commissioner Philbeck advised that the citizens could add the bridge as part of the Pennies for Progress.

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Commissioner Philbeck introduced an amendment to add *that this Legislative request will be extended annually on the legislative agenda until a local bill is approved or the Board of Commissioners votes to remove the request.*

Commissioner Carpenter provided the second.

Chairman Keigher called for the vote on the amendment which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Williams applauded the Delegation for the progress they have made upon inheriting a broken system; stated this is an attempt to accelerate the progress the Delegation is making in Raleigh. The BOC is asking for the ability to allow its citizens the right to vote on a funding mechanism for infrastructure; hope the General Assembly will support this and trust citizens to make this decision.

Chairman Keigher called for the vote, and the BOC unanimously approved Resolution **2016-058**, as amended, as follows:

WHEREAS, transportation infrastructure is a critical component of any local economic development program; and,

WHEREAS, a local revenue source dedicated to transportation infrastructure would improve economic development within Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has studied the "Pennies For Progress" program in York County, South Carolina and finds that it is a successful method for raising revenues to support transportation which has been strongly supported by the voters of York County; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners finds and declares that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the County to give citizens the opportunity to vote for a local option sales tax to fund transportation infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners that:

1. The Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that the Gaston County Delegation to the North Carolina General Assembly introduce and support legislation to allow Gaston County citizens the opportunity to authorize a "Pennies for Progress" sales tax to support transportation infrastructure.
2. This Resolution shall be forwarded to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Legislative request will be extended annually on the legislative agenda until a local bill is approved or the Board of Commissioners votes to remove the request.

2016-059 Board of Commissioners - Governor Pat McCrory's \$2 Billion Connect NC Bond Act a Referendum on the Ballot for March 15, 2016

Commissioner Carpenter introduced the motion to approve. Commissioner Brown provided the second.

Commissioner Keigher explained the BOC is not stating whether citizens should vote for this or not, but is asking the public to use their right to vote; if adopted the County would be the recipient of a large amount of money; all of the Delegates are not opposed to a optional sales tax. He remarked that while the Delegation is willing to allow taxpayers to vote on \$2B, they are not willing to allow

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Gaston County citizens the right to vote for a penny sales tax, which could bring in \$25-\$30M annually to our County for roads.

Commissioner Philbeck stated his support for the resolution, but reiterated his earlier comments that if the State did not spend this \$2B it could result in a \$2B tax cut.

Chairman Keigher called for the vote, and the BOC unanimously approved **2016-059** as follows:

WHEREAS, it has been fifteen years since the last general obligation bond was authorized to upgrade our state's infrastructure and since then, North Carolina has added two million people in population. The \$2 billion bond will connect North Carolina to the 21st century through statewide investments in education, parks, safety, recreation, and water and sewer infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the Connect NC bond will allow the State to pay for 50-year assets with 20-year financing. No tax increases are necessary to finance the bond, given the State's strong revenue growth and ample debt service capacity, and the State will maintain their Triple A bond rating from all three major ratings agencies - one of only 10 states to have earned this coveted rating; and,

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond invests \$134.8 million in the Southwest Region and allocates \$6 million for Gaston College, \$750,000 for Crowders Mountain State Park, and provides Gaston County with the opportunity to seek matching grants for water and sewer infrastructure expansions; and,

WHEREAS, passage of the Governor's Connect NC bond referendum package WILL NOT increase property taxes in Gaston County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners commends the members of the NC General Assembly and the Governor for allowing the citizens of North Carolina to make this important decision and encourages Gaston County voters to express their opinion by voting in the March 15, 2016 Primary election - with early voting beginning on March 3rd.

2016-000 Commissioner Williams - Public Works - To Approve Demolition of the Old Nurse's Dormitory on South New Hope Road and Appropriate the Necessary Funding

Commissioner Williams introduced a motion to table. Commissioner Fraley provided the second.

Chairman Keigher called for a vote on the motion to table which carried unanimously.

Appointments

On motion introduced by Commissioner Fraley and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Jim Hoffman to the ***Travel and Tourism Advisory Board*** to an unexpired term ending May 2018.

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously reappointed to the ***Gaston County Board of Adjustments***:

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<u>Motion Introduced</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Commissioner Williams	Commissioner Price	Mr. Tim Bolynn	March 2019
Commissioner Williams	Commissioner Price	Mr. George Mason	February 2019

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Brown, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Barry Joye to the ***Fire Advisory Board*** to a term ending December 2018.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Carpenter and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Commissioner Tracy Philbeck to the ***Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)*** as alternate to an unexpired term ending December 2016.

Commissioners Committee Reports

Commissioner Price reported meeting attendance to ***Gaston Family Health Services (GFHS)*** - Mr. Robert Spencer, GFHS Director, received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Commissioner Carpenter reported meeting attendance to ***Gaston Healthcare Commission*** - that group is doing a lot to help improve the health of County citizens; they are working with various organizations (County Police, Health Department, Hospital, churches, businesses, etc.) to maintain good health.

Commissioner Keigher reported meeting attendance to ***Annual Planning Session (APS)*** - it was very positive and upbeat; a lot of great news came out of it; ***Joint LEG-BOC Annual Meeting*** - discussed two or three transportation issues; ***New YMCA Coming Out Presentation*** - This will be a fantastic \$16M project at Robinson Lake; will be America's #1 state-of-the-art YMCA facility; announced that the ***Gaston Republican Party Annual Lincoln Day Dinner*** will be held on February 27th.

County Manager's Report

The County Manager presented:

- Staff is continuing preparatory work associated with the issuance of school bonds; trying to remain on schedule for schools to get those constructed in a timely manner
- Also continuing to have numerous departmental level budget meetings; will conclude those meetings this week.

County Attorney's Report

No report.

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Other Matters

None.

Adjournment

By unanimous consent, the BOC adjourned the Rescheduled Meeting of February 9, 2016 at 7:41 pm.

(All aforementioned documents are on file with the Clerk to the Board.)

Tom Keigher, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

Donna S. Buff
Clerk to the Board

SEAL