

Approved

Minutes of Recessed Meeting  
Of Monday, June 15, 2009

The Union County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, June 15, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in a meeting recessed from Wednesday, June 10, 2009, in the Board's Conference Room, first floor, Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Monroe, North Carolina, for the purpose of continuing its budget deliberations on the FY 2009-2010 budget. The following were

PRESENT: Chairman Lanny Openshaw (arrived at approximately 4:10 p.m.), Vice Chair Kim Rogers, Commissioner Allan Baucom, Commissioner Tracy Kuehler (arrived at approximately 4:15 p.m.) and Commissioner A. Parker Mills, Jr.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Al Greene, County Manager, Matthew Delk, Assistant County Manager, Lynn G. West, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Jeff Crook, Senior Staff Attorney, Mark Watson, Personnel Director, Kai Nelson, Finance Director, members of the press, and interested citizens

At approximately 4:20 p.m., Chairman Openshaw reconvened the recessed meeting and welcomed everyone present. He recognized Al Greene, County Manager, for comments.

Mr. Greene stated that staff sent the necessary information to the Board on Friday based on its last work session on the budget. He pointed out that the most significant difference would be in the volunteer fire department budgets. He said that Mr. Nelson revised the spreadsheet showing those budgets. He said that staff was asked to take all fire fees and tax rates to the current level and to eliminate the sales tax reallocation that has been used since last year to balance the budgets within the fire service. He said that the mutual aid subsidies have been added back that had been taken away several years ago from a few departments. He stated the one thing that staff was asked to do, that it has not done, was to roll back each budget to the current level. He recognized Neal Speer, Fire Marshall, to answer any questions that the Board had in regards to the fire departments' budgets.

Mr. Greene said that the staff's ability to make the changes that Mr. Nelson has shown in the spreadsheet provided to the Board is contingent upon the Board taking action to reduce the Union County Public Schools' current year budget. He stated it was

his recollection that the schools had indicated that this was agreeable so long as in lieu of paygo capital outlay they could use bond savings for those projects, which staff is agreeable to do.

Commissioner Mills said it had been pointed out to him that in relation to the mutual aid for the volunteer fire departments, the City of Monroe is a taxing authority the same as Stallings and Hemby Bridge. He stated that Monroe does run mutual aid with the volunteer fire departments, and the question has been raised why is the City of Monroe not included in the mutual aid when they do run back up along with the volunteer fire departments.

Mr. Greene responded that the theory behind the mutual aid is that it is mutually beneficial, and the City of Monroe benefits from the County providing mutual aid within the city limits.

Commissioner Mills pointed out that the residents of Monroe pay county taxes as well, and that is why the question had come up as a fairness issue. He asked if there was a specific reason why Monroe was not included in the mutual aid to receive the stipends that are given to the other fire departments.

Mr. Greene responded that he was not aware of any specific reason.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding funding of the fire departments including discussion of equity issues and the concept behind the mutual aid subsidies to the fire departments.

Mr. Greene stated that if the Board of Commissioners and the fire service do not work together to establish a way to fund fire service in the County that is sustainable, fair, and equitable, the Board of Commissioners will be dealing with this incrementally each year.

Commissioner Mills stated that the proposed budget presented to the Board last Wednesday had a zero tax increase but it did put a number of items off into the next fiscal year.

At the request of Commissioner Kuehler, Neal Speer, Fire Marshall, answered questions regarding the fire departments' budgets and reviewed their fund balances.

Mr. Nelson stated that he thought the Manager's point was right on mark and said that it is recognized that there needs to be dialogue with the fire departments in terms of their working capital needs, how to define those capital needs, and what are their capital replacement needs.

Mr. Greene said that the Board does not have the information available to go through each of the fire department's budgets and assess their needs. He stated that the real questions are how is the County going to look to the future with the 18 fire departments and 14 municipalities and work together to develop a framework for rural fire protection in the county that can be funded in an equitable manner and which is sustainable.

Mr. Nelson suggested that the Board consider the question of whether to provide the mutual aid subsidy to the City of Monroe as a part of the fire service analysis.

At the suggestion of Vice Chair Rogers, at approximately 5:50 p.m., the Chairman called for a recess in the meeting. At approximately 6:10 p.m., the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

Chairman Openshaw stated that he thought the fire services issues need to be addressed and try to make some progress in the upcoming year. He said that this is not a process that ends when the budget is adopted. He stated that there is going to have to be continued work to enhance revenue.

The Chairman asked if there was a motion to adopt the budget.

Mr. Nelson clarified that the budget ordinance would be the draft budget ordinance in the agenda package under Item #16 with two revisions that would reflect the changes discussed for Hemby Bridge Volunteer Fire Department and Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

He said that the non-profits would be funded at the levels recommended in the Manager's budget proposal.

Commissioner Mills asked what had been done for the travel line item for the Veterans Services. Secondly, he said he had a lengthy conversation with Reverend Al Lewis. He said if the Board was in agreement, he wanted to reduce the amount of appropriation for the District Attorney (\$79,000) and take \$40,000 from that amount and move it to the Safer Communities Program.

Mr. Greene explained that under the scenario presented by Commissioner Mills, the position in the District Attorney's Office office would have to go part-time.

Chairman Openshaw said that he was glad to support the Safe Communities and proposed to fund the program at its current level and suggested that some time in the future a decision could be made about further funding the program.

Commissioner Mills suggested setting aside the \$40,000 from the District Attorney's budget to contingency.

Commissioner Baucom stated that he would be more comfortable with moving the \$79,000 from the District Attorney's Office to contingency.

Mr. Nelson said that these issues could be resolved at a future date. Vice Chair Rogers recommended that the funding be left as is and ask Reverend Lewis to come talk with the Board at a future date and also that the Board talk with the District Attorney and then a budget transfer could be made, if needed.

Chairman Openshaw said it had been suggested to him to have a separate line item for the Veterans Services Office and the Transportation Department for the veterans' travel.

Mr. Greene said the reason the Veterans' travel fund was reduced is because the Veterans Administration has opened a facility in Charlotte, and they are encouraging the veterans to go to Charlotte rather than Salisbury. He said that he thought that reduction reflected a reduction in trips to Salisbury every week from three to two.

Mr. Nelson suggested that staff identify the issues relative to the veterans travel and bring a report to the Board at a later time.

Commissioner Baucom stated that the proposed budget ordinance did not adjust the Board's compensation and again he proposed that be done. This was discussed and Commissioner Baucom stated that his proposal was meant to make a symbolic gesture on the part of the Board.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Mills moved to adopt the Budget Ordinance for FY 2009-2010 as discussed. The motion was passed by a vote of three to two. Chairman Openshaw, Commissioner Kuehler, and Commissioner Mills voted in favor of the motion. Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Baucom voted against the motion.

<b>Fiscal Year 2009-2010</b>							<b>Adopted Budget Ordinance</b>	
							<b>Union County, NC</b>	

SECTION I.	GENERAL FUND								
	A	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the GENERAL FUND for the operation of the county government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.							
		General Government:							
		Board of Commissioners						468,232	
		Central Administration						769,218	
		County Dues & Memberships						97,773	
		Internal Audit						93,963	
		Legal						321,164	
		Personnel						704,401	
		Finance						836,179	
		Tax Administration						3,514,820	
		Court Facilities						1,911,613	
		Elections						1,030,151	
		Register of Deeds						1,050,542	

		Information Technology				1,744,853		
		General Services				159,316	12,702,225	
		Public Safety:						
		Law Enforcement				19,001,547		
		Communications				4,002,751		
		Homeland Security				188,362		
		Fire Services				1,620,124		
		Inspections				1,633,326		
		Outside Agencies				3,081,540	29,527,650	
		Economic & Physical Development:						
		Planning				513,910		
		Economic Development				1,603,587		
		Cooperative Extension				1,085,578		
		Soil Conservation				77,871		
		Outside Agency				77,248	3,358,194	
		Human Services:						
		Public Health				8,065,994		

		Social Services				26,007,711		
		Transportation and Nutrition				1,305,976		
		Veterans' Services				280,441		
		Outside Agencies				1,806,927	37,467,049	
		Education:						
		School Current Expense (See Section VIII. D.)				79,504,155		
		School CE-Occupancy Costs				175,065		
		School Capital Outlay (See Section VIII. A., B., & C.)						
		Pay-Go & Bond Savings	4,344,169					
		Bond Savings	(2,000,000)			2,344,169		
		School Debt Service				49,488,752		
		Community College						
		Debt Service				351,604		
		Operations				1,100,000		
		Outside Agency				2,250	132,965,995	
		Cultural and Recreational:						
		Library				4,125,565		
		Parks & Recreation				1,681,030		

		Outside Agencies						74,308	5,880,903	
		Contingency/Nondepartmental						428,000	428,000	
									222,330,016	
										Continued on next page.
<b>Adopted Budget Ordinance</b>										<b>Fiscal Year 2009-2010</b>
<b>Union County, NC</b>										
	<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the GENERAL FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.								
	.									
		Ad Valorem Taxes							151,542,026	
		Local Option Sales Tax							28,478,556	
		Other Taxes							1,416,000	
		Intergovernmental							28,776,111	
		Functional Revenues							6,694,970	
		Miscellaneous							4,138,847	
		Fund Balance Appropriated							1,283,506	
									222,330,016	
<b>SECTION II.</b>		<b>FIRE TAX DISTRICTS</b>								



	<b>A</b>	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the various FIRE TAX DISTRICT FUNDS for the operation of fire protection services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.			<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the FIRE TAX DISTRICT FUNDS for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.							
		Hemby Bridge				Ad Valorem Taxes			1,017,768				
			1,130,500										
						Local Option Sales Tax			112,732				
									1,130,500				
		Springs				Ad Valorem Taxes			314,698				
			327,115										
						Local Option Sales Tax			750				
						Fund Balance Appropriated			11,667				
									327,115				
		Stallings				Ad Valorem Taxes			833,747				
			985,224										
						Local Option Sales Tax			151,477				
									985,224				
		Waxhaw				Ad Valorem Taxes			400,094				
			588,926										

							Local Option Sales Tax	78,832
							Fund Balance Appropriated	110,000
								588,926
		Wesley Chapel					Ad Valorem Taxes	999,596
				1,184,552				
							Local Option Sales Tax	184,956
								1,184,552
<b>SECTION III.</b>	<b>FEE SUPPORTED FIRE DISTRICTS</b>							
	<b>A</b>	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the FEE SUPPORTED FIRE DISTRICTS FUND for the operation of fire protection services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.			<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the FEE SUPPORTED FIRE DISTRICTS FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.		
		Public Safety:					Fire Fees	1,029,269
				1,032,369				
							Fund Balance Appropriated	3,100
								1,032,369

												Continued on next page.
<b>SECTION IV.</b>		<b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM</b>										
	A	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND for the emergency 911 services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.				B	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.					
		Public Safety			1,244,465			Service Charges				1,244,465
								Miscellaneous				-
												1,244,465
<b>SECTION V.</b>		<b>WATER AND SEWER</b>										

	<b>A</b>	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the WATER AND SEWER FUND for the operation of water and sewer services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.					<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the WATER AND SEWER FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.		
<b>SECTION VI.</b>		<b>SOLID WASTE</b>								
	<b>A</b>	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the SOLID WASTE FUND for the operation of solid waste services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.					<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the SOLID WASTE FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.		

		Solid Waste		4,854,564		Fees for Services		4,667,040	
						Miscellaneous		65,000	
						IFT from Solid Waste Reserves		137,516	
						Fund Balance Appropriated		(14,992)	
								4,854,564	
<b>SECTION VII.</b>	<b>STORMWATER</b>								
	<b>A</b>	The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the STORMWATER FUND for the operation of stormwater services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this county.			<b>B</b>	It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the STORMWATER FUND for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.			
		Stormwater		279,891		Transfer from Enterprise Fund		284,797	
						Fund Balance Appropriated		(4,906)	
								279,891	



	<b>B</b>	The appropriations identified as Section I A. General Fund - School Capital in the amount of \$4,344,169 shall be allocated to UCPS based on 115C-429(b) Category I (projects) and Category II (entire category) and Category III (entire category). The School Capital Categories I, II and III shall be based on the County's approved 2010-2014 UCPS Capital Improvement Plan. Additionally, Category I and Category II capital outlay appropriations provided by the County and reflected in the UCPS capital outlay fund pursuant to 115C-426 that are not capitalized pursuant to governmental generally accepted accounting principles will be charged to School Current Expense with a budget transfer from School Capital Outlay. Union County Finance Director is hereby provided the authority to make said budget transfers.									
<b>SECTION IX.</b>	<b>A</b>	GENERAL FUND: That there is hereby levied for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010, the following county-wide rate of tax on each one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of taxable property situated in the County, as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2009, for the purpose of raising the revenue from current year's taxes, as set forth in the foregoing county-wide estimates of revenue, and in order to finance the foregoing county-wide appropriations:									
		General Fund - County-wide Rate	.6650								

	<b>B</b>	SPECIAL DISTRICTS: That there is hereby levied for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010, the following Special District tax rate on each one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of estimated taxable property situated in each Special District, as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2009, for the purpose of raising the revenue from current year's taxes, as set out in the foregoing District estimates of revenue, and in order to finance the foregoing District appropriations:									
	.										
		Hemby Bridge Fire Protection District		.0493				Wesley Chapel Fire Protection District		.0191	
		Springs Fire Protection District		.0306				Waxhaw Fire Protection District		.0248	
		Stallings Fire Protection District		.0406							



Continued on next page.

Fiscal Year 2009-2010		Adopted Budget Ordinance									
Union County, NC											
SECTION X.	FIRE FEES										
<p>These fees will be collected by the County Tax Administrator's Office and remitted to the various fee supported fire districts by the Finance Department on a monthly basis. Remittances may not exceed the budgeted amount for any given department. In the event that revenues exceed expenditures, those funds shall be withheld and used in the next year's budget appropriation as a fund balance added to the appropriation from fees collected in that year. The fees are as follows:</p>											
FIRE FEES 2009-2010			Allens		Beaver		Griffith		Lanes		
			Roads	Bakers	Lane	Fairview	Road	Jackson	Creek		
Percentage per request or maximum		100.00%	80.42%	100.00%	90.62%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%		
Single Family Dwelling (SFD)	(max fee of \$50)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00		
Unimproved Land-per acre		0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02		

	-minimum	(10% of fee)	5.00	4.02	5.00	4.53	5.00	5.00	5.00	
	Animal/Horticulture	(20% of fee)	10.00	8.04	10.00	9.06	10.00	10.00	10.00	
	Commercial < or = 5000 sq ft	(100% of fee)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Commercial > 5000 sq ft	(200% of fee)	100.00	80.42	100.00	90.62	100.00	100.00	100.00	
	Mobile Home	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Duplex	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Triplex	(150% of fee)	75.00	60.32	75.00	67.97	75.00	75.00	75.00	
	Other Family Dwellings	(200% of fee)	100.00	80.42	100.00	90.62	100.00	100.00	100.00	
	Cultural Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Educational Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Governmental Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Religious Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	Fire Protection Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	40.21	50.00	45.31	50.00	50.00	50.00	
	% of Legislated maximum of \$50.00		100.00%	80.42%	100.00%	90.62%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
			New	Provi-	Sandy	Stacks		Union-		

			Salem	dence	Ridge	Road	Stalling s	ville	Wingate	
	Percentage per request or maximum		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	87.46%	100.00%	
	Single Family Dwelling (SFD)	(max fee \$50)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Unimproved Land-per acre		0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	
	-minimum	(10% of fee)	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.37	5.00	
	Animal/Horticulture	(20% of fee)	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	8.75	10.00	
	Commercial < or = 5000 sq ft	(100% of fee)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Commercial > 5000 sq ft	(200% of fee)	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	87.46	100.00	
	Mobile Home	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Duplex	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Triplex	(150% of fee)	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	65.60	75.00	
	Other Family Dwellings	(200% of fee)	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	87.46	100.00	
	Cultural Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Educational Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Governmental Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	Religious Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	

	Fire Protection Facilities	(same as SFD)	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.73	50.00	
	% of Legislated maximum of \$50.00		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	87.46%	100.00%	
										Continued on next page.

<b>SECTION XI. WATER AND SEWER RATES</b>										
	A	<b>One-time Charges for New Service:</b>								
	.									
						<b>Capacity</b>		<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>	
					<b>Meter</b>	<b>Ratio</b>		<b>User</b>	<b>User</b>	
					<b>Size</b>	<b>to 3/4 inch</b>		<b>Fees</b>	<b>Fees</b>	
		Capacity Fee - charged for all		3/4"	1.00		\$ 500	\$ 2,650		
		new service (based on		1"	2.52		1,250	6,675		
		meter size):		1.5"	5.01		2,500	13,275		
				2"	8.01		4,000	21,225		

				3"	22.54		11,250	59,725
				4"	50.09		25,050	132,725
				6"	70.12		35,050	185,825
			Water Tap Fee - charged for	3/4"			\$ 400	
			county provided taps	1"			525	
			(based on meter size):	1.5"			2,600	
				> 1.5" meter			Cost	
				<b>Line</b>				
				<b>Size</b>				
			Sewer Tap Fee - charged for	4"				\$ 630
			county provided taps	6"				825
			(based on line size):	> 6" line				Cost
	<b>B</b>		<b>Monthly Service</b>					
	<b>.</b>		<b>Charges:</b>					
						<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
				<b>Meter</b>		<b>Ratio</b>	<b>User</b>	<b>User</b>
				<b>Size</b>		<b>to 3/4 inch</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Fees</b>
			Base Facility Charge - fixed	3/4"	1.00		\$ 5.00	\$ 9.25
			amount (based on meter	1"	2.52		12.60	23.31
			size):	1.5"	5.01		25.05	46.34
				2"	8.01		40.05	74.09
				3"	22.54		112.70	208.50
				4"	50.09		250.45	463.33

				6"		70.12				350.60			648.61
Monthly Volume (Usage) Charge, Non Residential Customers - per 1,000 gallons (monthly metered water usage):													
										\$ 2.45	*	\$ 3.30	**
* Monthly Volume (Usage) Charge, Residential 3/4" and Irrigation Meters - per 1,000 gallons (monthly metered water usage, rates are based on the stage of water restrictions in force):													
				Monthly	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV					
				Gallons	No Water	Water	Water	Water					
				Billed	Restrictions	Restrictions	Restrictions	Restrictions					
				0 - 3,000	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.10					
				3,001 - 8,000	2.45	2.45	2.45	2.45					
				8,001 -10,000	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45					
				10,001 -15,000	5.45	8.18	13.63	19.08					
				Over 15,000	9.45	14.18	23.63	33.08					
** A year round sewer billing cap is applicable to all metered water consumption over 12,000 gallons per month for residential customers using 3/4" meter.													
				<b>C</b>	<b>Payment Distribution:</b>								
				.									
Payments will be applied first to late charges or fees, then to sewer charges, and then to water charges.													
Continued on next page.													

Fiscal Year 2009-2010		Adopted Budget Ordinance									
Union County, NC											
SECTION XII.		SEVERABILITY									
A .		If any clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph, appropriation, or section of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, it shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance or the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, appropriations, or sections.									
		This Budget Ordinance is adopted on June 15, 2009 and is to become effective July 1, 2009.									
		BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS									
		UNION COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA									
		By:									
		CHAIRMAN									

With there being no further discussion, at approximately 6:30 p.m., Commissioner Kuehler moved to adjourn the special meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.