

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 10, 2007

3:00 P.M.

**NORTH CAROLINA
MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in a Special Session Budget Workshop in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners Karen Bentley, J. Daniel Bishop, Dumont Clarke H. Parks Helms, Bill James, Norman A. Mitchell, Sr. and Dan Ramirez
County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr.
County Attorney Marvin A. Bethune
Clerk to the Board Janice S. Paige

Absent: Commissioner Valerie C. Woodard

Commissioner Bishop was absent when the meeting was called to order and until noted in the minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roberts.

Chairman Roberts said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the FY 2008 Recommended Capital Budget and FY2008-2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

Chairman Roberts turned the meeting over to Budget and Management Director Hyong Yi.

Commissioner Bishop entered the meeting during this time.

Director Yi gave an overview of what would be discussed. He then noted things the Board needed to consider as it goes through the capital budget process.

A copy of handouts from Director Yi is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Finance Director Dena Diorio gave an overview of proposed financing using COPs, Bonds-Referendum, & Two-Thirds Bonds. She also addressed the estimated impact on Debt Statistics, Proposed Bond Sales, and Estimated Debt Service & Tax Rate impact.

Director Yi noted that the only change in the County Manager's original CIP recommendation presented on June 19, 2007 versus what was being presented now was an additional \$5 million for Central Piedmont Community College.

Finance Director Diorio addressed questions regarding debt service.

Commissioner James addressed the need for a capital framework for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Commissioner James said there needs to be a rateable increase. He also expressed concern for affordability and construction capacity.

Guy Chamberlain with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools addressed construction timing.

Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, addressed the needs of the Schools. Dr. Gorman said he regrets that he didn't recommend \$618 million originally and that he

supports this amount fully.

Chairman Roberts asked what would happen if the Board of County Commissioners approves a bond amount less than what the Board of Education requested.

Chairman White said the Board of Education would have to go back and add and subtract projects.

Commissioner Helms noted that the amount of the sale in January 2008 also has to be considered and not just setting the bond amount.

Commissioner James expressed concern for what was and was not on CMS's projects list.

Commissioner Bentley asked Dr. Gorman had there been a policy change with respect to stadium sharing. Dr. Gorman said CMS' policy has not changed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Clarke and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, James, Mitchell, Ramirez, and Roberts voting yes, to accept the County Manager's CIP recommendation, with the exception of CMS, in the amount of \$235,664,571 and includes all of the COPs, fee funded, pay-go, & two-thirds bonds.

Commissioner James asked about the capital plan for jails.

County Manager Jones said due diligence would be done with respect to the need for jail space and that it would probably be next year before he brings forth a recommendation to the Board.

Chairman Roberts asked about storm water projects and whether any of it included the purchase of land. *The response was that it does include the acquisition of flood prone structures and flood prone land as part of the capital projects.*

Note: The above is not inclusive of every comment and/or question asked but reflects key points and actions taken by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Janice S. Paige, Clerk

Jennifer Roberts, Chairman