

GASTON COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

COMMISSIONER'S COURT
OCTOBER 28, 2010

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met in Regular Session on October 28, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the Commissioners Room, Gaston County Courthouse.

Chairman Mickey Price presided with Commissioners Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chair; Joe D. Carpenter, Tom Keigher, Donnie Loftis, Tracy L. Philbeck and John A. Torbett in attendance.

Others present included Jan Winters, County Manager; Charles L. Moore, County Attorney; and Martha M. Jordan, Clerk to the Board.

Upon request of Chairman Price, Commissioner Loftis led those assembled in the Invocation and Commissioner Philbeck led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Torbett - 621st Engineer Detachment - North Carolina National Guard - "Operation Iraqi Freedom"; Presentation of the Shield of Honor, Meritorious Service Commendation

Commissioner Torbett recognized Sgt. Derek Morgan, 621st Engineer Detachment, and presented the 621st with the second *Gaston County Shield of Honor* with the following inscription after which he presented the Commendation for Meritorious Service:

The Gaston County
Shield of Honor
is presented to the

621st Engineer Detachment
of the
NC Army National Guard

for service to the people of
our County, State, and Nation in

"Operation Iraqi Freedom"
October 2010



"Disciplined To Serve"

331

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Loftis, the BOC unanimously approved 2010-299 as follows:

WHEREAS, the 621st Engineer Detachment of the North Carolina Army National Guard was formed on May 24, 2007 and ordered to active Federal service on June 11, 2009. The 15-man team departed Gastonia to become part of the "Operation Iraqi Freedom" initiative in the continuing effort to contain terrorism throughout the free world; and,

WHEREAS, prior to their departure, the 621st presented the battalion's flag to be displayed in the County Commission Public Forum to be reclaimed upon their return. The flag served as a reminder for all to offer up prayers of safety for the 15-member team during their tenure in Iraq; and,

WHEREAS, while in Iraq, "the 621st completed survey and design missions on a wide variety of projects in support of the United States and Iraqi operations throughout the Baghdad area"; and,

WHEREAS, using state-of-the-art civilian survey and design equipment - including High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) and the larger Family Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) - the 621st proceeded to design, map, and complete their mission; and,

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2010, the 15-member team of the 621st Engineer Detachment of the North Carolina Army National Guard arrived home safely and into the arms of awaiting loved ones and friends, and was officially welcomed home by the North Carolina National Guard and honored on September 12, 2010 in a ceremony held at Bethlehem Church, Gastonia, NC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners extends its grateful appreciation to the 621st Engineer Detachment of the North Carolina Army National Guard for their valor and bravery during the "Operation Iraqi Freedom" engagement and commends their families, friends and others who supported them so diligently during their deployment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Commission presents the 621st Engineer Detachment of the North Carolina Army National Guard with the "Gaston County Shield of Honor" as enacted by policy adopted by the County Commission on October 10, 2006. Adopted this 28th Day of October 2010.

Public Hearing - Zoning Map Change - Application Z10-04: Walter B. Ratchford and Kathryn F. Ratchford (Applicants); Property Parcel: 193171 Located at Intersection of Rufus Ratchford Road (SR 2431) and Ratchford Farm Road (SR 2433) from the R-1 (Single Family Limited) Zoning District within the Urban Standards Overlay (USO) and Scenic View (SV) Overlay to the R-2 (Single Family Moderate) Zoning District within the US and SV Overlays

Chairman Price announced the Public Hearings as advertised; explained procedures to be used; called for the motion to enter into Public Hearings.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Loftis, the BOC unanimously entered into Public Hearings.

With a quorum of the Planning Board being in attendance, Mr. Willie King, Senior Planner, cited the above titled information; the application resulted from a violation involving a camping/recreational vehicle park in the southeast portion of the County; location, buildings and street network were pointed out via aerial maps; is consistent with Comprehensive Plan in the southeast area; key issues include water/sewer availability and retaining existing business and farmland; no municipal coordination required; MPO and NC-DOT transportation responses were included in BOC packets; notifications were made per County policy; two neighbors contacted staff - one for information and one in opposition to the rezoning.

Chairman Price called for citizen comment.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. Paul Ratchford, Jr., 251 Ratchford Farm Road, advised of growing beef cattle on a portion of the Rufus Ratchford estate; holding a NC Century Farm designation and being located across road from the property in question; has been an active family farm for 125+ years; would like to continue farming the land although difficult to maintain farm atmosphere due to continued growth in southeastern section of county; farm location is within the scenic view overlay and designed to restrict building height or other encroachments; in close proximity to the Garden Parkway; application is for a recreational vehicle park campground across the road; campers would stay for an extended period of time and come and go as jobs require; small subdivision nearby contains six mobile homes; prefers to discontinue mobile home placement and recreational vehicle campgrounds; urged BOC to deny the proposed rezoning in order to maintain the areas scenic beauty.

Mr. Walter Ratchford, Jr., 247 Rufus Ratchford Road and land owner advised that family had subdivided the land; does contract work for Duke Energy Nuclear Plant; about ten fellow contract workers wanted to park their recreational vehicles on the property; spoke with Code Enforcement; will be called Gardenview Campground; will keep it neat; requested approval of the rezoning.

Chairman Price called for questions from the Planning Board and hearing none, called for questions from the BOC.

Commissioner Torbett asked if the applicant planned to grow the campground.

Mr. Ratchford responded "yes"; may specialize in this type business in the future.

Commissioner Loftis asked for the current surrounding zoning classifications.

Mr. King advised that the surrounding property was predominantly R-1 single family limited with some C-3 zoning just up from subject property (Hoover Machine), although there may be some other noncommercial.

With no further questions being heard, Chairman Price excused the Planning Board to Room 2029 for deliberations.

Public Hearing - Re: Close Out of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project #07-C-1719 Received by the County from the NC Division of Community Assistance

Mrs. Pat Laws, Grants Analyst, advised that the \$750k CDBG was for infrastructure, and introduced Mr. Steve Austin, Project Administrator, and manages the grant, to provide an update on what had been accomplished.

Mr. Austin advised that the County was awarded the \$750k grant in 2008 to install sewer service to the Queens Road/Queens Court neighborhood in south Gastonia; project has been completed; 6,480' of sewer lines were installed in ninety-six homes and connected to the City of Gastonia sewer system; subject public hearing is required to formally close out project; State has thoroughly monitored the

333

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

project twice; no findings or concerns; project came in under budget and ahead of schedule.

Chairman Price called for citizen comment and any questions from the BOC, and with none being heard called for a motion.

2010-300 Commissioner Carpenter - Budget/Purchasing - To Close Out the \$750,000 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Infrastructure Grant for the Queens Road/Queens Court Sewer

On motion introduced by Commissioner Carpenter and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously closed out the \$750,000 2007 CDBG Infrastructure Grant for the Queens Road/Queens Court Sewer.

Chairman Price called for a motion to close the Public Hearings.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, the BOC unanimously closed the Public Hearings.

Agenda Revision/Approval

- Revised Pg. 13/ Commissioner Fraley - *Public Works - To Negotiate a Long Term Roof Lease with National Renewable Energy Corporation (NARENCO) to Proceed with the Design, Procurement, Installation and Maintenance of a Solar Photovoltaic System* - VII., C.
- Added/ Commissioner Philbeck - *Commendation - Mr. F. Scott Jenkins* - VII., T.
- Added/ Commissioner Price - *Cooperative Extension - To Appropriate \$5,359 for Cooperative Extension's Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIP)* - VII., U.
- Added/ Commissioner Price - *Budget/Purchasing - To Appropriate Fund Balance (\$182,000) for Temporary Funding of GFHS Dental Clinic* - VII., V.
- Added/ Commissioner Price - *Commendation - Dr. William Donigan, DDS* - VII., W.
- Added/ Commissioner Keigher - *DSS - To Approve Five (5) Additional Child Protective Services Social Worker III Positions for Children and Family Services* - VII., X.
- Moved/ Commissioners Torbett & Philbeck - BOC - Policy to Implement Zero-based Budgeting in Property Revaluation Years - VIII., B.
- Added/ Commissioner Philbeck - Closed Session regarding NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with the County Attorney - XII., C., 1.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Loftis, the BOC unanimously added a Closed Session Re: Personnel.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously approved the Agenda of October 28, 2010 with revisions as noted above.

Approval of Minutes

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 23, 2010 and the Closed Sessions of September 23, 2010 - Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(1)(6).

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Citizen Recognition

No requests.

Consent Agenda

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

2010-301 Commissioners Carpenter & Fraley - Public Works - Endorsed a Meeting with the US Army Corps of Engineers and NCDENR Division of Water Quality to Discuss Raw Water Needs and authorized staff to send a meeting request to both agencies.

2010-302 Commissioner Fraley - Tax Collections - Tax Refunds authorized to said persons and/or firms in the amounts stated with such funds coming from Account 10- - - 2301- 01 pursuant to GS 105-381 (b) as follows:

TAXPAYER NAME	OWNER NAME	AMOUNT
October 18, 2010 (Real Estate)		
Anselmo, Elizabeth M.		\$283.81
Baxter, Max D.		\$182.51
Blankenship, Kenneth		\$823.41
Carden, Ronald		\$1,370.54
Carmax Auto Superstores, Inc.		\$4,088.90
Carolina Tree Service		\$149.64
Carolina Tree Service		\$145.28
Diggs, Edward K.		\$253.24
Dufault, Ruth Ann Ferns		\$700.00
Edward, Donald		\$469.46
First American Title	Waller, John L.	\$456.00
First American Title	Rodden, Calvin H.	\$199.13
Godfrey, Robert W.		\$544.35
Jarrell A.L. Family Corp.		\$1,755.68
Linear Title and Closing		\$664.75
Linear Title and Closing		\$363.25
National Title Network	Toomer, James E.	\$255.38
Page, Theoria R.		\$159.61
Raby, William B.		\$241.26
Robert C. Whitt, Attorney	Gibson, Bobby Chris	\$2,662.45
Russ, Christine		\$100.00
ServiceLink	Szucs, Christopher C.	\$498.80
ServiceLink		\$183.42
Stuesse, Kevin		\$171.51
Title Source, Inc.	Crisp, David A.	\$145.18
Title Source, Inc.	Jones, Patti A.	\$132.30
Title Source, Inc.	Bridges, Madison B.	\$194.84
US Nail Spa		\$422.26
		\$17,616.96
October 18, 2010 (Vehicles)		
Arnot, Doris Marie		\$137.03
Auten, Debbie McCoig		\$176.57
Beacham, Melinda Sprinkle		\$146.32
Beam, Daniel Thompson		\$213.02
Beam, Latarsha Crawford		\$136.03
Byrd, Mark Anthony		\$180.73
Carden, Ronald		\$213.25

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Carr, Kevin Mason	\$128.11
Cleveland Co. Tax Collector	\$143.27
Cooke, Franke P. Jr.	\$373.51
Crisp, Charles Lamar	\$132.64
Dalton, Bethany Erin	\$103.34
Duncan, Billy Dale	\$730.76
Fifth Third Auto Leasing	\$239.53
Fisher, Jeffrey Mark	\$101.22
Henderson, Derrick Bernard	\$220.56
Massengill, John A.	\$193.94
McKay, Amy Byrum	\$172.62
Medlin, Linda Cook	\$107.24
Nissan Infiniti LT	\$150.21
Seeley, Audra Barner	\$119.84
Sloan, Dianne Cornelia	\$101.40
Turney, Sharon Medlin	\$114.44
Warren L. Tadlock	\$208.16
Horne, Jimmy Ray	\$4,543.74

2010-303 Commissioner Fraley - Public Works - Negotiated a Long Term Roof Lease with National Renewable Energy Corporation (NARENCO) to Proceed with the Design, Procurement, Installation and Maintenance of a Solar Photovoltaic System, authorized staff to develop necessary contracts, authorized the County Manager to execute said contracts and directed staff to track rent proceeds separately in the event the BOC should choose to purchase the solar PV equipment at a later date.

2010-304 Commissioner Fraley - Sheriff - Surplused and Disposed of a Malinois K-9 named Rohe and made it available for private sale to handler Deputy Strickland for one dollar, who will be responsible for all further medical and housing expenses once it is retired.

2010-305 Commissioner Keigher - Commended Ms. Lou Ann Shuford for thirty years of service to the Department of Social Services.

2010-306 Commissioner Keigher - DSS - Accepted and Appropriated Additional \$337,125 for Direct Services in Child Care Development Funding (CCDF) and \$203,236 in Purchased Day Care ARRA Funding per Budget Change Request:

Child Care Dev. – CCDF – Federal	20-5850-220-517	(272,026)
Child Care Dev. – CCDF - State	20-5850-320-528	(65,099)
Child Care/ARRA - Federal	20-5850-223-517	(203,236)
Public Assistance/Purchased Day Care	20-5850-5856-475-000	337,125
Special Programs/ARRA Purchased Child Day Care	20-5850-5856-298-000 11237-0001	203,236

2010-307 Commissioner Loftis - Proclaimed Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve Week for September 19-25, 2010.

2010-308 Commissioner Loftis - Commended Mr. Archer Price, as “the youngest golf champion” to win the Gaston County Amateur Golf Tournament which raised \$23k for Cancer Services of Gaston County.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

- 2010-309 Commissioner Loftis - Emergency Management - Accepted and Appropriated a Duke Energy Grant per Budget Change Request:**
 Revenue Account 10-4330-890-502 (\$500)
 Special Programs 10-4330-298-000 11233-0001 \$500
- 2010-310 Commissioners Loftis & Keigher - County Attorney - Authorized an Option to Purchase the Former Gaston Memorial Hospital Located on Highland Street in Gastonia (PID 103535) to the Preservation Foundation of North Carolina (PNC) for an Adaptive Reuse of the Property as Affordable Housing for the Elderly.**
- 2010-311 Commissioner Philbeck - Register of Deeds (ROD) - Appropriated Funds from the ROD Automation Enhancement & Preservation Fund Balance Account into the Special Programs Account per Budget Change Request:**
 ROD Automation Reserve 10-9900-991-500 (\$7100.00)
 Special Projects 10-4180-298-000 10343-0001 \$7100.00
- 2010-312 Commissioner Philbeck - Elections - Approved HAVA (Help America Vote Act) One-Stop Grant Award from the North Carolina State Board of Elections per Budget Change Request:**
 HAVA Grant 10-4170-323-504 (11,596)
 Elections 10-4170-697-000 \$11,596.00
- 2010-313 Commissioner Philbeck - Board of Education - Approved Project Application for Public School Building Capital Funds for the 2010-11 Technology Project (State -\$250,000).**
- 2010-314 Commissioner Price - COG - Approved the Region F Aging Advisory Committee By-Laws as filed with the Clerk to the Board.**
- 2010-315 Commissioner Torbett - Fire Marshal - Mapping Updates to the Crowders Mountain Fire Protection District designating the official fire district layer of the Official Gaston County Geographic Information System (GIS) Map, as the Crowders Mountain Fire District, both the five and six mile areas, for purposes of fire insurance ratings as prescribed by NCGS 153A-233.**
- 2010-316 Commissioner Torbett - GEMS - Surplused and Sold Two Retiring Ambulances, One to the Stanley CD Rescue Squad and One to Ranlo Fire & Rescue, for \$1 Each for Use as Backup Units.**
- 2010-317 Commissioners Torbett & Philbeck - County Attorney - Authorized the Chairman of the County Board of Commissioners to Execute a Letter of Intent to Waste 2 Energy, LLC, Stating the County's Intent to Sell Approximately 17 Acres of the County's Existing Landfill Property to Waste 2 Energy, LLC, for Construction and Operation of an Anaerobic Digestion System for \$250,000.**

337

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

2010-318 Commissioner Philbeck - Commended Mr. F. Scott Jenkins for twenty years of service at Alexis Baptist Church.

2010-319 Commissioner Price - Cooperative Extension - Appropriated \$5,359 for Cooperative Extension's Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) per Budget Change Request:

Senior's Health Insurance SHIIP	10-4950-4950-298-000	11222-0001	\$5359.00
SHIIP: Sr Hlth Ins Info Pg	10-4950-4950-221-525		[\$5359.00]

2010-320 Commissioner Price- Budget/Purchasing - Appropriated Fund Balance (\$182,000) for Temporary Funding of GFHS Dental Clinic per Budget Change Request:

Fund Balance Appropriated	10-9900-991-500	\$ (182,000)
Professional Services – Medical	10-5100-5170-5172-193-000	\$182,0000

2010-321 Commissioner Price - Commended Dr. William Donigan, DDS, for his vision in addressing the dental needs of the citizens of Gaston County.

2010-322 Commissioner Keigher - DSS - Approved Five (5) Additional Child Protective Services Social Worker III Positions for Children and Family Services.

FAILED Commissioners Torbett & Philbeck - BOC - Policy to Implement Zero-based Budgeting (ZBB) in Property Revaluation Years

Commissioner Torbett introduced the motion for purposes of discussion and Commissioner Philbeck provided the second.

Noting that he was not opposed to ZBB, Commissioner Fraley advised that he was opposed to tying the hands of future boards as to how they would conduct the budgetary process.

Agreeing, Commissioner Carpenter related preference for studying service levels in order to arrive at a budget; BOC would need to advise the County Manager of the expected level of services prior to his budget preparation.

Although not opposed to ZBB, Chairman Price advised that the Annual Planning Session may be a more appropriate time to discuss the budget; ZBB may not need to be done annually; a resolution would not be required.

Citing support voiced during the October Work Session, Commissioner Torbett recalled bringing the issue up twice to identify whether to proceed with the resolution or not; a ZBB format would require adequate time to prepare; BOC delayed revaluation for two years which would provide the time needed to start rebuilding the budget from zero; supported BOC committees and experts to provide budget data; BOC can direct the County Manager to prepare the budget as it deems appropriate; would be a footprint for a subsequent revaluation.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Commissioner Keigher stated that other counties had related to staff that the process was too costly and no longer used; majority of BOC could provide budget direction at any time with no resolution being required; asked the County Manager to respond to statewide findings.

The County Manager advised that staff had looked at the issue two years ago; counties found that benefits were not equal to cost in setting up the program; counties do modify and chose those parts that are clearly cost effective; Gaston budgets are modified when staff meets with the departments; asked for BOC support in providing service level inputs, working together on different categories of programs, and bringing that information forth to the BOC when the budget was presented.

Chairman Price supported BOC involvement in the budget process and indicated that committees may have some merit.

Commissioner Philbeck reported that State officials anticipated a budgetary shortfall of \$4-7B; counties will suffer cuts when the General Assembly reconvenes; felt it would be prudent for the County to perform an enhanced level of due diligence to seek any additional savings; preferred BOC to set policy due to declining revenue; have no problem with looking at a modified ZBB each revaluation year as long as BOC controls the process; wants voters to become aware that everything possible is being done; not all BOC actions come to fruition; cited the schools and economic development; some get adjusted due to changing circumstances; BOC cannot handicap future boards; want to perform a higher level of due diligence and justify all costs in view of State deficits; urged voting on the issue.

Commissioner Torbett also called for a vote and stated preference for a formal resolution; two years would be adequate time to prepare the best plan and show citizens that the budget could be rebuilt from zero up.

With discussion coming to a close, Chairman Price called for the vote and the motion failed to carry as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Torbett, Philbeck
Nays: Commissioners Price, Fraley, Loftis, Keigher, Carpenter
Absent: None

2010-323 Commissioner Price - Planning/Zoning - To Deny the Application for Zoning Map Change: Z10-04: Walter B. Ratchford, Jr. and Kathryn Cecile F. Ratchford (Applicant); Property Parcel(s): 193171 Zoned (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District Within the Urban Standards Overlay (USO) and the Scenic View (SV) Overlay to the (R-2) Single Family Moderate Zoning District Within the US and SV Overlays

The County Attorney advised that the Planning Board recommended denying the application by a unanimous vote with one member abstaining.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner

339

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Carpenter, the BOC unanimously denied the application after consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and Planning Board recommendation:

- 1) the application for the map change request is not consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan and the Commission considers this action to deny the application to be in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land use in the immediate area.
- 2) the map change request for property parcel 193171 be denied effective with the passage of this resolution.
- 3) the County Manager is authorized to make necessary modifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Appointments

On motion introduced by Commissioner Fraley and seconded by Commissioner Loftis, the BOC unanimously appointed Dr. Kathleen Meriac to the **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)** to a term ending July 2011.

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously appointed to the **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board:**

<u>Motion Introduced</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Loftis	Mr. Chesley Walls	June 2013
Commissioner Keigher	Commissioner Carpenter	Mr. Robert Jansen	June 2013

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, the BOC unanimously reappointed Ms. Judith Johnson to the **Animal Control Task Force Advisory Board** to a term ending March 2014.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Torbett and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Steven Amos to the **Travel and Tourism Advisory Board** to a term ending August 2012.

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously reappointed to the **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee:**

<u>Motion Introduced</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Commissioner Philbeck	Commissioner Loftis	Ms. Norma Coleman	October 2013
Commissioner Keigher	Commissioner Carpenter	Ms. Betty Harwell	October 2013

On motion introduced by Commissioner Price and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Ms. Shirley Wiggins to the **Region F Aging Advisory Committee** to a term ending June 2012.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Loftis and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Brad Thomas to the **Lake Wylie Marine Commission** to a term ending September 2014.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Commissioners Committee Reports

Commissioner Philbeck announced availability of \$2M in 2010-2011 Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Grants; BOC adoption last year of the Gaston Farmland Protection Plan will make it easier for applicants to apply for the funds.

Commissioner Keigher reported attendance to 10/28 DSS Board; individual Medicaid recipients exceeds \$40k; approaching \$40k in individual food stamps; combined recipient numbers is about 20% of the County.

Commissioner Carpenter reported accepting the Chairmanship of the *NCACC Tax & Finance Committee* which also included memberships to the NCACC Board of Trustees and the Legislative Goals Committee; will be identifying a few goals for the Legislatures consideration. Commissioner Loftis accepted as *Chairman of the Veterans Outreach and Services Task Force* which also included membership to NCACC Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Price reported meeting attendance to Health Board: Director search is continuing; GFHS; Gaston Memorial Hospital: By-laws and Nominating Committees; thanked BOC for supporting the GFHS loan resolution that was needed due to the fact that the State has not paid any Medicaid funds to counties since September 7.

County Manager's Report

Re: Increase in Medicaid/Food Stamps - Rate of increase peaked about a year ago; increases remain but at a declining rate; on the down side; relating to that, there has been an increase in economic development activity.

Appraisals Between Revaluation, Why? - Reviewed the eight categories of building permits issued: advised that there are no economic reappraisals. Reappraisals between revaluations are set to the year of the last revaluation (2007). In 2008, 2900 new parcels were added, 4600 had increases in value, 2500 had decreases; in 2009, 1700 new parcels, 7,000 had increases, 4500 had decreases; in 2010, 1200 new parcels, 2900 had increases and 1600 had decreases; many instances are reported by neighbors.

County Attorney's Report

No report, although a Closed Session was added under Agenda Revision to consult with the County Attorney per NCGS143-318.11.(a)(3).

On motion introduced by Commissioner Loftis and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC entered into Closed Session.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Loftis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC

341

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 28, 2010

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

unanimously entered into Open Session.

Chairman Price advised that there was no report from the Closed Session.

Adjournment

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Loftis, the BOC unanimously adjourned the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2010 at 8:10 pm.

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

Mickey Price, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

Martha M. Jordan
Clerk to the Board

SEAL