

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF McDOWELL
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON SECONDARY ROADS AND
REGULAR SESSION – MAY 14, 2012**

ASSEMBLY

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met at 3:30 p.m. for a public hearing with the Department of Transportation, followed by the regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 14, 2012, in the Commissioners' Board Room, the usual place of meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David N. Walker, Chairman; Barry E. McPeters, Vice-Chairman; Andrew K. Webb; Michael K. Lavender; and Joshua R. Dobson.

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles R. Abernathy, County Manager; Carrie Padgett, Clerk to the Board; Ashley Wooten, Assistant to the County Manager (Filming); Department of Transportation officials and staff including Ed Greene, Division 13 Maintenance Engineer; Doug McNeal, District Engineer; Wade Tate, County Maintenance Engineer; Scott Killough, Assistant District Engineer; Sandy Miller, Technician in District Office, and Henry Worley, Maintenance Supervisor for McDowell County. Also present was Mike Conley, Reporter for THE McDOWELL NEWS.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Walker called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Ed Greene to come forward for their presentation.

Mr. Greene thanked the Board for the opportunity of meeting with them and advised today's public hearing was being held in compliance with G.S. 136-44.8 and in accordance with directives established by the North Carolina Board of Transportation. He asked Mr. Tate to present the proposed expenditures of the estimated Secondary Roads Construction Funds for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013:

North Carolina Department of Transportation
2012-13 Secondary Roads Improvement Program
McDowell County

I. Construction of Unpaved Roads

<u>Priority Number</u>	<u>SR Number</u>	<u>Length (Miles)</u>	<u>Road Name and Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
2001-2004	1407	.055	MILL CREEK ROAD – forms 1408 to US Forest Service Property and from R/R to USFS Property	\$ 60,000.00
Subtotal				\$ 60,000.00

II. Paved Road Improvement Projects

<u>SR Number</u>	<u>Length (Miles)</u>	<u>Road Name and Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1246	1.41	GREENLEE ROAD – Widen, Strengthen and Curve – Improvements from SR 1228 to SR 1161	\$490,000.00
1001	N/A	SUGAR HILL ROAD at DINK CANNON ROAD (SR 1163) – Intersection Improvement Project	80,000.00
Subtotal			\$630,000.00

III. Funds reserved for surveying, right of way acquisitions, road additions, contingencies, overdrafts and paving entrances to certified fire departments, rescue squads, etc.

Subtotal	\$ 33,405.00
2013 FY Anticipated Funding	\$663,405.00

CONTINUE DOWN PRIORITY LIST UNTIL ALL FUNDS ARE EXHAUSTED

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING, RIGHT-OF-WAY AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

McDowell County 2012-2013 Secondary Roads Improvement Program
Backup Program

Paved Road Improvement Projects – Alternates

<u>SR Number</u>	<u>Length (Miles)</u>	<u>Road Name and Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1246	1.97	GREENLEE ROAD – Widen and Strengthen Pavement from SR 1161 to SR 1240	\$ 560,000.00
1776	N/A	PIERCE ROAD AT LANDIS LANE – Intersection Improvement Project	\$ 50,000.00
1501	N/A	HANKINS ROAD – Curve Improvement Project, located approximately 0.30 mile east of SR 1592	\$ 150,000.00
1536	N/A	MEMORIAL PARK ROAD – Curve Improvement	

Project, located east of the intersection with SR 1538 \$ 150,000.00

LIST OF UNPAVED ROADS WITH UNAVAILABLE RIGHT OF WAY
2012-2013
McDOWELL COUNTY

<u>RURAL ROADS</u>			
Priority	SR Number	Name	Length
1	1214	Old #10	1.15
2	1436	Lake Tahoma Road	1.20
3	1739	Owl Hollow Road	0.09
4	1227	Curtis Creek Road	1.00
5	1774	Bill Deck Road	0.12
6	1771	Dairy Road	0.49
7	1440	Huskins Branch Road	0.18
8	1230	McCoy Road	0.59
9	1756	Isaac Road	0.24
10	1566	Peppers Creek Road	1.70
11	1433	Old Toms Creek Road	0.33
12	1141	Bartlett Road	0.92
13	1768	Sain Road	0.61
14	1443	Armstrong Road	2.23
15	1541	Finley Road	0.33
16	1112	Moffitt Branch Road	0.48
17	1407	Mill Creek Road	2.49
18	1142	Haynes Road	0.45
19	1401	Simmons Road	0.45
20	1421	Wild Acres Road	2.00
21	1273	Ted Smith Road	0.30
22	1591	Clinchfield Loop	0.19
23	1411	Ed Allison Road	0.24
24	1409	Stevens Road	0.40
25	1451	Green Mountain Road	0.47
26	1442	Grace Greenlee Road	0.25
27	1295	Ken Tom Road	0.11
28	1574	Flynn Drive	0.10
29	1567	Orchard Road	1.96
30	1402	Shanytown Road	0.27
Total			21.34

<u>SUBDIVISION/RESIDENTIAL ROADS</u>			
Priority	SR Number	Name	Length
1	1542	Dewey James Road	0.10
2	1744	Pyatt Heights	0.10
3	1441	Hollifield Road	0.23
4	1540	Twin Oaks Road	0.24
5	1438	Sarah Johnson Road	0.10
6	1117	Baptist Side Road	0.07
7	1102	Gilliam Road	0.12
8	1121	McEntire Road	0.19
9	1504	Victory Road	0.18
10	1222	Poplar Street	0.14
11	1418	Liberty Church Road	0.39
12	1463	Newberry Creek	0.89
13	1107	Walker Town Road	0.55
14	1784	Moore Branch Road	0.39

15	1712	Roberta Street	0.33
16	1101	Hebron Hill Road	0.29
17	1213	Ralph Cordell Road	0.27
18	1256	Frank Cooper Road	0.04
		Total	4.62

SUMMARY

Number of Roads on List	48
Total Length of Roads	25.96

Commissioner Webb made reference to the grading sheet the Board had received earlier, noting that maybe he had missed it in the past, but this was very interesting information and it had helped him to understand the Department of Transportation rating priorities. Commissioner Webb asked about the Greenlee Road Project, whether this had been a right-of-way issue and had just now become a priority. In response, Mr. Tate noted the heavy loads traveling this road going into Columbia Carolina, saying it is being used more than some of the other secondary roads.

Commissioner McPeters asked about the situation with Dink Cannon Road. Mr. Tate explained what their plan is for making improvements at this intersection, saying there have been a lot of “near misses” there.

Chairman Walker raised the issue of Maple Leaf Drive, and whether the City had petitioned the State to take this road over. Mr. Abernathy noted the condition of the road (potholes, etc.) and said he believed Maple Leaf Drive is in the City’s jurisdiction. Mr. Neal advised it is currently being maintained as a private road, that it was built after 1975 and there are big issues involving this road. Mr. Abernathy asked what the legality is with the City repairing potholes on a road that is a private road. Mr. Neal said the City maintains their road system and Maple Leaf Drive would need to be at least 16’ wider. Mr. Abernathy agreed to look into this.

Discussion followed on the status of roads on the unpaved road list. Mr. Tate explained now they do not pave a portion of a road because there is no incentive to pave in that manner. Chairman Walker asked about the surface material used in paving roads. In response, DOT officials advised it depends on the road, the traffic, and other factors that determine the type material they use.

In response to a question about Old #10 how it relates to priority, DOT officials said this portion is near Jeld-Wenn, and they have signing from 86% of the property owners for right of way, representing 63% of road frontage, thus having about six-tenths of a mile unavailable.

Chairman Walker asked for comments from the audience. None were heard.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion to go out of public hearing. Commissioner McPeters seconded the motion and by unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Dobson then made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lavender, to approve the *Resolution Recommending a Program of Total Needs for Secondary Road Improvements in McDowell County* as presented. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

Chairman Walker thanked Department of Transportation officials for being present today and, on behalf of the Board, expressed appreciation for all the work they do. Comments of appreciation from other Board members were heard also.

A brief recess was then called by the Chairman.

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:58 p.m., in order to utilize time, Chairman Walker called the regular session meeting to order. The invocation was given by Commissioner Lavender, followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Commissioner Webb.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The County Manager asked if agreeable, he would like to add the Resolution Transferring Personal Property to a Non-Profit to the agenda for the Finance related section. Commissioner McPeters made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Dobson seconded the motion and by a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 16, 2012 regular session were presented for approval.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McPeters, to table approval of the minutes. There was no discussion and by unanimous approval, the motion carried.

YMCA TRAIL UPDATE

The County Manager advised the first loop of the Trail around the YMCA and the Senior Center is finished and a ribbon cutting/kick-off is set for 2:00 p.m. on May 25th. Bids for Phase II are to be opened on May 18th and will be on the June agenda for approval. He advised feedback on Phase I had been positive. Mr. Abernathy advised there had been some discussion of indigenous plantings along the Trail route that would be a School System science project and he had a meeting set up with a biology teacher to discuss and further pursue this project.

There were no questions or discussion from the Board.

GOLDEN LEAF CONTRACT APPROVAL

Mr. Abernathy presented the Contract from the Golden Leaf Foundation awarding the \$2.14 million for the Universal Skill Center. Highlights of the grant include the following:

- Grant is for 12 months and must occur within this period. Mr. Abernathy suggested that a start date be chosen rather than an award date (at least June 1 or maybe July 1)
- Work plan has to be revised. Will need to finalize decisions related to what is moved, the design, initiate the architects contract and the committee.
- A Memorandum of Understanding must be completed between the County and the College. Mr. Abernathy pointed out this might be a reason to set the start date up some distance from this date to allow time for discussion of this issue.

As information, Mr. Abernathy advised he had received a letter today requesting that a pre-application for the Universal Career and Pathway Skill Center be submitted to the ARC, eligible up to \$100,000. He pointed out he was not sure why this is the case since he had just received the letter today, whether it was for funding or if it is for some other reason.

Commissioner Lavender said his preference would be to go with the July 1st date because of budget work and the other projects going on. Further brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Lavender then made a motion to approve the contract with the Golden Leaf Foundation with a start date of July 1. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion and by unanimous approval, the motion carried.

ARCHITECT CONTRACT APPROVAL

Mr. Abernathy stated the Board had authorized the use of Holland & Hamrick as the architect for the Universal Building renovations and that a standard AIA contract was being presented for their approval. He said Mr. Hamrick is very excited and ready to get to work.

Commissioner Webb raised the idea of having a construction manager for this project, even if one is chosen internally. He said his concern is what kind of pressure does this put on staff. He asked what Mr. Abernathy's thoughts were on this. In response, Mr. Abernathy advised the County has used both ways in the past, and pointed out this is something staff needed to look into.

The County Attorney addressed this idea, saying he has been on both sides of the table. He mentioned situations with some projects in the past and gave examples of how they can play out. Mr. Coats said the Universal Building is going to be a complicated

project and he was not giving legal advice but practical knowledge that he has seen used in the past.

A general discussion followed with Mr. Coats addressing further questions from the Board.

Commissioner Webb made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McPeters, to approve the Contract with Holland & Hamrick Architects, P.A. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

BUDGET AND FINANCE RELATED ITEMS

First, the current year sales tax figures were distributed to the Board and the County Manager gave a few brief comments about those figures. There were no questions.

Next, the Finance Officer reviewed the budget amendments as follows:

GF #42 – Allocates loan proceeds for the new ambulance and the Sheriff's vehicles. The fund balance for the fire department loan pool is allocated and \$2,692 is allocated for an EMA Intern. This will come from the Watershed fund balance.

GF #43 – Transfers \$500,000 in the Soil Conservation Department.

GF #44 – Allocates funds for the new equipment in the Board Room.

A Resolution Close-Out of Project Fund (53) for the Scattered Site Housing 08-C-1829 Project (grant funds in the amount of \$401,000.00), along with three (3) Project Budget Ordinances were presented for the Board's approval. The Project Budget Ordinances were for the Catawba Falls Restroom Facility (amount of \$55,000), Hospital Transfer Switches (amount of \$293,333), and Lake James-EPA (amount of \$881,818). There were no questions.

Commissioner McPeters made a motion to approve budget amendments GF#42-GF# 44, the Resolution, and the Project Budget Ordinances as presented. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion and by unanimous approval, the motion carried.

A brief discussion followed on the fire department loan pool.

Karen Morgan, Finance/Purchasing, presented a request for waiver of late filing fees for occupancy tax. She advised the client had never been late reporting taxes and had cited medical circumstances as the reason for making this request.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Webb to approve the request for waiver of late filing fees as presented. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

Finance Officer Alison Morgan presented the EMS billing accounts considered “non-collectible” as write-offs for the Board’s approval. The total amount submitted as write-offs was \$43,781.69.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dobson, to approve the EMS write-offs as presented. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

The Finance Officer then presented an adjustment (\$5.00) to Cook Builders account for the Nebo Water System. Payment was misrouted internally and went to Building Inspections.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McPeters, to approve the Nebo Water System adjustment as presented.

Commissioner Lavender suggested having staff handle such adjustments instead of the Board, with an associated change in the fee schedule. A brief discussion followed.

By consensus, the Board agreed to allow staff to make changes to County policy to allow handling of similar issues in-house as necessary.

When put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The last finance related item was in regard to the boat at the County Garage which had previously been assigned to the Sheriff’s Department for patrolling purposes on Lake James. Staff advised Sheriff Dudley Greene does not use the boat and was recommending that it be donated to Hankins Fire Department. A resolution The County Manager advised they plan to convert to a search, rescue and fire suppression operations vessel.

Commissioner McPeters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Webb, to approve the *Resolution Authorizing Donation of Personal Property to Non-Profit Organization* as requested for the transfer of property. By unanimous approval, the motion carried and the resolution was adopted as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DONATION OF PERSONAL
PROPERTY TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

WHEREAS, the County of McDowell desires to donate a 1987 19’ Monarch Boat, serial #MAK403030487 and a McFarland trailer, serial # 173321048795 to Hankins/North Fork Fire Department, a Non-Profit Entity; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-279 permits the Board of Commissioners to donate personal property to non-profit organizations that carry a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, records of all donated property will be maintained by the County.

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

The County of McDowell is authorized to donate a 1987 19' Monarch Boat, serial #MAK403030487 and a McFarland trailer, serial #173321048795 to Hankins/North Fork Fire Department, a Non-Profit Entity.

This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this the 14th day of May, 2012.

HIGHWAY 221 SOUTH WIDENING UPDATE

The County Manager reviewed the email he had drafted (amended by the City Manager and reviewed by the Chamber Director for content) addressed to Mr. Jamille A. Robbins with the NC Department of Transportation concerning US 221 improvements and the request for small group meetings in Marion. They are suggesting having three meetings to focus on options having less impact, with each meeting focused on a separate section. They are asking that NCDOT come out and assist in the schedule of meetings maybe in June.

Commissioner Dobson thanked Mr. Abernathy and Mr. Boyette for their work on this effort. Mr. Abernathy said they would like to have another engineer come to the meetings and review the options.

In further discussion, Commissioner Webb made reference to the letter from Haldex Brake Products expressing their interest in this project and its outcome. Mr. Abernathy said he had heard from Morganton Pressure Vessels and that they had indicated they were not sure what is happening in this process, but he plans to meet with them to inform them of what is going on.

RURAL CENTER PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT CONTRACT

The County Manager made reference to the Rural Center Grant Agreement approved by the Board last month with the Rural Center regarding the award for the Tilson Machine expansion in the Universal Building. The work has largely been done and the company is ready to begin reimbursement. Mr. Abernathy advised the Project Tilson Performance Agreement between the County and Tilson Machine is a standard document concerning this grant which essentially holds the company responsible for job creation and satisfying this specific requirement. He pointed out this agreement differs in that the County owns the building and will be holding them liable to do this.

Concerning the Agreement, Chairman Walker said this is a very honorable thing to do in helping our people find work.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Webb, to approve the Performance Agreement with Tilson Machine as presented. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH TRUSTEES

The County Manager gave a brief introduction, noting the Board had seen two different versions of the document: (1) His own version with two slight changes and (2) The document sent to the Board of Trustees, after which they sent a revised copy which was emailed to the Board. Mr. Abernathy explained the two changes that he and Dr. Wilson had made, noting that they feel good about getting this accomplished. He explained the second change has to do with language on renovation referenced as something that was the “intent” to do, with reference to square footage in two phases (an initial phase and a second phase that will happen at sort of an “ambiguous future date”), and the Board of Trustees felt the 75,000 square feet needed to be more “nailed down” and more immediate.

A lengthy discussion followed with each Board member being given opportunity to comment on the renovation of vacated space at the main campus of the College. Mr. Abernathy made reference to language in the Agreement stating “funds designated in the Golden Leaf Grant Application for renovation on the main campus will be adhered to”. While most agreed on the aspect of the Board’s commitment to the College for renovation, some differences of opinion were expressed concerning the source of funding that should be used for doing the renovations. Chairman Walker said it should be language to the effect that it is our responsibility and we are committed to renovation where space is vacated and that both boards will work together in order to renovate to some level that is reasonable for all. The County Manger pointed out there will be a budget and said the memo will be revised to state this more specifically.

Discussion followed on the 75,000 square feet. Mr. Abernathy said he had spoken with the College President earlier and he was in agreement with the language that he (Mr. Abernathy) used. Mr. Abernathy pointed out this puts him in a difficult situation because he has a board that takes action, etc.

Commissioner Dobson said he would support the 50,000 square feet now and the additional 25,000 is out there somewhere for further consideration when the need arises. Commissioner Lavender said some additional language might be needed (not sure what this should be), noting the figures have shifted. Commissioner Webb addressed the need and how government works as far as what is presented to the Board as the need exists.

Commissioner Lavender suggested asking that County staff take what had been said, make some modifications and have Mr. Abernathy go to a Trustees’ meeting and present this on the Board’s behalf, with a final version still submitted in June.

Chairman Walker said to note that “we have talked these things through”, it is our building, they have had input and the Board of Commissioners will make the final decision.

Mr. Abernathy addressed the changes that are obvious, the differences of opinion, etc. Discussion followed on the length of the lease, who defines need, the Board’s commitment to need as it is presented, etc.

Commissioner Webb made a motion, based on Mr. Abernathy’s coordination with the College President, to send back to them that we will apply the 25,000 when the time comes for need, and that we are committed to the future. Commissioner McPeters seconded the motion.

In further discussion, Commissioner Dobson addressed the motion, saying he would support the wording of demonstrated need. Commissioner Webb agreed to add that bullet in the document and Commissioner McPeters amended his second.

Chairman Walker commented on the College looking at a building of 40,000 square feet and we are giving them 10,000 more.

When put to a vote, results were a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Lavender opposing.

ELECTION RESOLUTION/HAVA FUNDS

Elections Director Kim Welborn came before the Board regarding a Resolution approved by the membership of the Election Boards Association of North Carolina on the maintenance of effort for the release of HAVA funds. The resolution was sent to the Governor and to the members of the NC General Assembly. In order to receive these funds there is a state match requirement in the amount of \$650,000. The amount was included in the Governor’s budget. The Election Boards Association is requesting that each County’s Board of Commissioners approve and send a similar resolution to the Governor and the General Assembly about the maintenance of effort requirement for the release of the HAVA funds.

Mrs. Welborn explained what this means to McDowell County and how it will impact us as far as equipment, one stop sites, etc.

A general discussion followed in which Mrs. Welborn advised her board members are in agreement concerning the resolution for the release of funds.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion to draft a resolution requesting that the General Assembly provide the funds for the match. Commissioner Dobson seconded the motion and by unanimous approval, the motion carried.

BRIEF RECESS

Staff asked for a brief recess in order to set up equipment for the next item.

MEETING RESUMED

With equipment set up, Chairman Walker called the meeting back to order and called EMS Director William Kehler forward for the next item.

EMS/HIGH SCHOOL DRUNK DRIVING VIDEO

EMS Director William Kehler explained that Major Eugene Edwards, in conjunction with other agencies, had produced a video on the topic of drunk driving which they wanted to present at this time. Production of the video had taken several months.

Major Edwards advised they wanted to show the video at the prom as well as to share it with the Highway Patrol. He said it was used in a training exercise and in a mock drill.

After viewing the video, Chairman Walker commended Major Edwards and other involved on being proactive in dealing with drunken driving, etc. The Major said they plan to also do a video on domestic violence.

In other matters, Mr. Kehler advised they will conduct their third Safety Camp this year and he was proud to say that McDowell's EMS was chosen by Western Carolina University to be used as a clinical site for training. He noted the competition involved was quite extensive.

PUBLIC HEARING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

At 5:45 as duly advertised, Chairman Walker declared the Board in public hearing in accordance with G.S. 158-7.1 and asked Economic Development Director Chuck Abernathy to address this project.

Mr. Abernathy commented briefly on what the statute says in regard to economic development, noting that the company announcement would need to take place in conjunction with the Department of Commerce if the McDowell location is selected. He could not name the company, but did advise it is an existing company located in another county. They will create 20 jobs and invest \$1,350,000, and will have wages that exceed the county average. The incentive being offered is \$60,000 over three (3) years for machinery and equipment and building improvements.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPeters and seconded by Commissioner Dobson to go out of public hearing. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Abernathy explained what will occur if the company cannot meet its obligation.

Commissioner Webb made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McPeters, to authorize the project the economic development project as presented. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

STORM READINESS CERTIFICATION

Emergency Management Director Terry Young came before the Board with an update about the Storm Readiness Certification process. Mr. Young advised McDowell County was certified by the National Weather Service on being a Storm Ready County until 2015. McDowell County had partnered with Yancey, Mitchell and Avery Counties on a mock earthquake. Mr. Young advised we are better prepared as a result of this exercise.

Information was provided of hiring an intern over the summer to assist with the watershed emergency planning that had been previously discussed.

Mr. Young invited the Board to the Fire Commission's Annual Dinner Meeting to be held on May 21st at 6:30 p.m. at McDowell Tech in the William Harold Smith Building.

PUBLIC HEARING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

At 6:00 p.m. as duly advertised, Chairman Walker declared the Board in public hearing for an economic development project in accordance with G.S. 158-7.1. He welcomed Phillip and Michelle Price of Antique and Reclaimed Lumber who were present.

Economic Development Director Chuck Abernathy explained they reclaim antique lumber and do flooring, beams, barn wood, etc. and are proposing to add five new employees. Mr. Abernathy advised the incentive being offered will include the payment of \$15,000 over two years (they are in agreement for three years) and investment of \$30,000 in machinery. Mr. Abernathy pointed out One NC will not come into play here—that funds will be local.

Mr. Price addressed the Board and explained what their work involves. He said they do anything made of wood (except chestnut) from 1920 or earlier, and recycle any useable parts, particularly lumber. He explained the process in restoration, what their products are used for, etc.

Commissioner McPeters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dobson, to go out of public hearing. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Commissioner Lavender made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McPeters, to authorize the incentive package as presented by staff. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

In review, Chairman Walker noted the vacancy on the Adult Care Home Advisory Committee, with Wilma C. Bartlett as the applicant. She also wishes to serve on the Nursing Home Advisory Committee. This is the second reading.

Other vacancies presented on first reading were one vacancy on the McDowell Tech Board of Trustees, one vacancy on the TDA Board representing the “under 50-unit category”, two vacancies on the Library Board of Trustees (two current members are rotating off); and three vacancies on the McDowell Planning Board.

The Board voted by written ballot on the Adult Care/Nursing Home Advisory Committee appointment. This vote resulted with a unanimous vote for Wilma C. Bartlett.

TAX MATTERS

The monthly listing of tax releases and refunds were presented to the Board for approval. In summary, they were:

Releases Under \$100.00	Released amount of \$668.32
Releases Over \$100.00	Released amount of \$1,977.13
Motor Vehicle Releases/Under \$100.00	Released amount of \$511.05
Motor Vehicle Releases/Over \$100.00	Released amount of \$1,022.34
Release Refunds	Refunded amount of \$1,155.29

Commissioner McPeters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dobson, to approve the tax releases and refunds as presented. By unanimous approval, the motion carried.

SET DATE FOR COMPUTER DEMONSTRATION/BUDGET MEETING

The County Manager requested that a date be set for the Computer Demonstration and a Budget Meeting. He suggested the Wednesday, May 16th, Tuesday, May 22nd, and Tuesday, May 29th, as possible dates.

Following a brief discussion, the Board agreed to meet on Wednesday, May 24th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with lunch being served. The Board will adjourn from today’s meeting.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The County Manager advised the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial is scheduled for Sunday, May 27th, at 2:00 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Mr. Kevin Washburn, from the Woodlawn Fire Department, spoke briefly on the 2% fire tax increase imposed last year. He stated he was in favor of it and that most people he has talked with are in favor of it also. He noted the people who are against the tax were not present. Mr. Washburn said he wanted to know about any further vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact at this time, upon motion by Commissioner Dobson, a second by Commissioner McPeters, and by unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, May 16th, for presentation of the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

DAVID N. WALKER, CHAIRMAN

CARRIE PADGETT
CLERK TO THE BOARD