

**MINUTES**  
**WILKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**June 7, 2016**

The Wilkes County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. with the following members present: Chairman Eddie Settle, Vice Chairman Greg Minton, Commissioner Keith Elmore, Commissioner Gary D. Blevins, and Commissioner David Gambill.

Also present for the meeting were Tony Triplett, County Attorney; John Yates, County Manager; and Sarah Call, Clerk to the Board.

Chairman Eddie Settle welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**INVOCATION** – Commissioner David Gambill led the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chairman Eddie Settle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – BUDGET WORK SESSION** – Motion was made by Vice Chairman Greg Minton, seconded by Commissioner Gary D. Blevins and unanimously adopted to approve the Minutes of the Budget Work Session held on May 10, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – BUDGET WORK SESSION** – Motion was made by Vice Chairman Greg Minton, seconded by Commissioner Gary D. Blevins and unanimously adopted to approve the Minutes of the Budget Work Session held on May 17, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Motion was made by Vice Chairman Greg Minton, seconded by Commissioner Gary D. Blevins and unanimously adopted to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on May 17, 2016.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS/TRANSFERS** – Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill to approve Budget Amendment No. 26 (General Fund – EMS; The EMS provided medical coverage for MerleFest 2016. The County received \$8,500 from this event to cover salaries of EMS employees working. Putting the funds back in Part-time Salaries from where this expense was paid). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – UPDATE** – Chairman Settle welcomed and recognized Dean Ledbetter, PE with D.O.T. Mr. Ledbetter said Mike Pettyjohn asked him to come and answer questions about where the D.O.T. is in the prioritization process with projects and he hopes he can answer questions the Board may have. Chairman Settle asked where Hwy. 268 stands in the process, it is a dangerous road and they are aware of some improvements that are being made near Ronda. Mr. Ledbetter replied there is a Federal spot safety project that will

provide widening, guardrail, and a turn lane at Edwards Lake View going on at this time. He added the bigger project from Airport Road to Elkin is in the TIP right now as a scheduled project, and it is in the later half or what they call the developmental plan. Mr. Ledbetter said these projects are subject to re-prioritization and they are going through that process now. This project could be funded and stay in the TIP or could be replaced by another project.

Chairman Settle stated he had been told the Surry County Board was going to possibly put Hwy. 268 in Wilkes County in their TIP plan to be 4-laned. Mr. Ledbetter replied he met with Elkin yesterday and they chose to not support this project in their RPO and instead support other projects within Surry County. Chairman Settle asked the status of the round-a-bout in Ronda or Roaring River area. Mr. Ledbetter replied the D.O.T. has engaged an engineering firm to start the preliminary environmental studies for the project. He added the firm will start with community evaluations and look at the natural resources. Mr. Ledbetter stated the D.O.T. has ask the firm to let them know what this road needs to look like from Airport Road to Elkin. He added part of it needs to be 4-laned, possibly not all of it. Part of the task order is for the firm to come up with some scenarios and evaluate those to help D.O.T. make recommendations as to what is appropriate for this road, he noted. Mr. Ledbetter said if capacity needs to be added in Ronda for example a round-a-bout would not be in the plan it would be a multiply lane road instead. Chairman Settle said the traffic in Ronda and Roaring River does get backed up, especially when the train is moving. Mr. Ledbetter stated the challenge is how the D.O.T can design something that handles the traffic and the interference from the train.

Chairman Settle said there is lots of traffic and accidents where Rock Creek enters Hwy. 268. Commissioner Blevins added a traffic light in the business area where Rock Creek comes into Hwy. 268 is needed, it is a dangerous spot. He added it is virtually impossible to pull out safely, they saw a bad accident when leaving a project recently. Mr. Ledbetter said that intersection has been evaluated in the past and did not meet signal warrants. He added if they install a signal at intersections that do not meet signal warrants it can increase accidents, signals themselves don't eliminate accidents.

Commissioner Blevins said the improvements that were made a few years ago to the road in Lenoir with widening, turn lanes, some curves taken out, and increasing sight distance all made this road so much safer. Mr. Ledbetter said one thing on the table for Hwy. 268 is a modernization which would bring the road to the current standards to the extent it is practical. He added it could increase sight distance, add turn lanes, safer intersections and passing zones.

Commissioner Blevins stated the biggest issue and number one on the TIP is the modernization of Hwy. 421 through the commercial section. Mr. Ledbetter added this project is locked in and is not subject to re-prioritization. He noted the design folks are working on the design for this. Chairman Settle asked if this is the super-street. Mr. Ledbetter replied yes. Chairman Settle asked if it goes all the way to Hwy. 16. Mr. Ledbetter replied yes Hwy. 16 is the projects limits. Commissioner Blevins asked if the Bypass is off the table. Mr. Ledbetter replied the project is called R616 and is in the process of re-prioritization. It should have a reasonable chance of being considered because it has a decent score, appears to have local support so it is a possibility, he added. Commissioner Blevins stated it would be post super-street. Mr. Ledbetter agreed and

added it could not be completed before the super-street. Chairman Settle stated that could be years down the road. Mr. Ledbetter said they are working on a 10-year TIP plan and this would be in the last years around 8 – 10 years.

Commissioner Blevins stated the other projects from the County and the two Towns that was accepted by the RPO is the Gateway to the towns, Hwy. 268 into Wilkesboro Main Street. Mr. Ledbetter said a project was supported to improve Oakwoods Road and create some type of Gateway project there. A project to make improvements to NC 115 from 421 to Second Street was also supported, he added. Mr. Ledbetter said they were previously scheduled in the TIP but there are still in the 8-10 year time frame. He said due to the bridge project they have had some issues with on Oakwoods Road, D.O.T. is trying to accelerate this project if this stays in the TIP. Maintenance on the bridge has been postponed waiting on this project, hoping they can replace the bridge, but they are running into Right-of-Way and environmental issues, he added. Chairman Settle asked if any of the decisions factor in when Samaritan's Purse begins construction. Mr. Ledbetter said it can with local input, but in terms of the data it is based on existing congestion and crashes.

Chairman Settle asked if the Board voted on any of this. Mr. Yates replied the folks they put on the CTP Committee work on this. Vice Chairman Minton stated the CTP has discussed all of this. He added there are Regional concerns, Divisional concerns as well as the statistical data of the crashes along the corridor. Vice Chairman Minton stated depending on all the variables and issues, they bring it together and score it, and it is a points system. He added it could score well based on D.O.T. data, but it is driving by public and local support that can be pushed away in many cases without the local support. Vice Chairman Minton said the High Country CTP covers several counties. The local members are focusing on Wilkes, but they are one voice among many, he added. Chairman Settle stated the top 7 on the CTP was mostly all in Town and do not deal with the issues or crashes on 268.

Commissioner Blevins said Hwy. 18 North was just completed and this was a major project and severs the northern end of the County and works great. He added the next big project is Hwy. 268 to Airport Road which is outside both town limits. Commissioner Blevins said some of this has been addressed, however the rest of 268 is still a problem along with Hwy. 16 all the way to the County line. Mr. Ledbetter stated one project supported through High Country was to improve 16 from 421 to Millers Creek Elementary School and to 4-lane that roadway due to capacity. He added there are more projects that are worthy to be supported than they are points to go around. Chairman Settle added there is just not enough money to do all of them. Commissioner Blevins said some pressure on 16 could be alleviated with the option of going up 421 across to the new 221. Mr. Ledbetter said it could reduce the through traffic on 16 but the real issue is not so much the through traffic but the rush hour traffic going to and from schools and work. Vice Chairman Minton added there are four schools within one mile of the intersection.

Mr. Ledbetter stated there are simply more projects than D.O.T. can fund so the question becomes which projects move forward and which move off the list. He said it is possible that 268 will come off the TIP this time. He added since they are under contract with the engineering

firm they will still proceed as they can to lay the ground work and this will help next time in the prioritization process with better information, estimates, and more accurate data. Mr. Yates said when the CTP is completed it will add more points to the projects for Wilkes and help with the scoring and moving them up the list as well. Vice Chairman Minton agreed and stated the CTP is nearing its final draft. Mr. Ledbetter said in two months D.O.T. should have some maps and recommendations. If the CTP agrees then they will schedule public input sessions to show these to the public and elected bodies for feedback, he added. Chairman Settle asked where the public input session will be held. Mr. Ledbetter said they are not scheduled yet but could be held in the Commissioners' Meeting room, Wilkesboro Civic Center, or at the Division office. He said some will be in other parts of the County like the Traphill Library to provide opportunity for everyone to have input.

Commissioner Gambill asked about the speed being reduced from Flint Hill to Roaring River, it is 55, but in Ronda it is 45 and the road is too small for this speed. Mr. Ledbetter replied there is very little to no road side development past Flint Hill across the bridge. He added road side development is the predominate driver for speed zones.

Commissioner Blevins asked if the Brushy Mountain exit round-a-bout has been funded. Mr. Ledbetter replied yes where the two ramps, Edgewood Road and Oakwoods Road come together it is a funded project and should go to construction this year or next year. There is also a safety project at the bottom of the step grade on U.S. 421 to improve and straighten the curve and add medium barriers due to cross-medium crashes, he added.

Commissioner Elmore asked the priorities at this time. Mr. Ledbetter replied the projects submitted that High County are putting points to are Oakwoods Road, N.C. 115, connector from 421 to 268, 268 bypass, the project on 16 to Millers Creek, a round-a-bout intersection improvement project at Yellow Banks and Traphill Road, and an aviation project. Commissioner Elmore asked which ones are funded. Mr. Ledbetter replied the currently funded and locked-in projects are the 421 super-street, 268 out to Airport Road, the round-a-bout on Oakwoods Road ramps, and the 421 safety project.

Commissioner Blevins asked if the D.O.T. has the final design for the super-street. Mr. Ledbetter said no they have not, they only have the public map that was available for the public hearing at this time. Commissioner Blevins asked where would be the closest similar projects to the super-street. Mr. Ledbetter replied they are available on their website and Chapel Hill would be the first one he can think of. Commissioner Blevins asked for a list of these. Mr. Ledbetter replied he can get that for the Board. Commissioner Elmore asked if the purpose of the super-street is to get traffic through. Mr. Ledbetter replied there are two primary benefits of a super-street one is to move traffic more efficiently and the second is safety improvements that follow that. He added this project is more to facilitate the traffic through the corridor more than to facilitate traffic within the corridor. There is a trade off with this, but the super-street gave D.O.T. a better option than the bypass that was originally purposed to go north of the corridor, he noted. Mr. Ledbetter said the options were between a controlled access bypass and the super-street. Commissioner Elmore stated the argument for the super-street was, it is going to help businesses in that area and he questions if they will benefit. Commissioner Blevins stated the

discussion on this goes back more than a decade. He added there was a lot of input from businesses that a bypass would destroy the commercial aspect of 421 for Wilkes County and cost them lots of revenue. It is more of a safety issue than anything else, he added. Commissioner Blevins said businesses may be impacted some, but it will not be the same impact as it would have been with a bypass. He added if a bypass would have been built first there road would not have been improved. Mr. Ledbetter agreed the 5-lane road would have no reason to be improved if the bypass was built. Commercial Blevins said the super-street had a lot of thought put into it and it was the best option. Mr. Ledbetter said there is no-way to explain how well the road will work, he did not believe it until he sat down, looked at the simulation, the analysis, and the benefits.

Chairman Settle thanked Mr. Ledbetter for the update and said the Board just needed to address these issues and get information. People are wrecking and getting killed on 268, the traffic on 16 in Millers Creek is bad and they just had some questions, he added. The Board thanked Mr. Ledbetter for the D.O.T. update. Commissioner Blevins noted Wilkes is fortunate to have the District Office in Wilkes and all the jobs they provide.

**WILKES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – UPDATE** – Chairman Settle welcomed and recognized Dan Little, EDC President. Mr. Little thanked the Board for the opportunity to share some things they are working on and an update for the EDC. He said in the recent past they have focused on three areas, which are work force education, asset development and promotion, and attention to existing business industry to include small businesses. Mr. Little added they are not neglecting other areas of the community, region, or state but these are time consuming and they felt in this post recessionary period this is the area of their focus. He added they support education with Ex Officio members on their Board being the WCC President and School Superintendent and with the partnership and significant funding of Project ADMIT. Mr. Little stated they helped with Project ADMIT with grant writing to Golden LEAF and have seen the benefits this program can bring to the student population as well. He added they have just completed their 4<sup>th</sup> year of the EDC – Teacher Externship Program that pays a stipend to High School Teachers to better understand the work-force needs from the employers in Wilkes. This program will continue as it is very successful, he said. Mr. Little said they support the skills competition at WCC and are one of the founding partners in BIF (the Wilkes Business and Industry Forum) for the group of employers that participate in this initiative. He said they are 6-months from being certified as an ACT Workforce Community which shows potential businesses that Wilkes is addressing its workforce needs and very worthwhile.

Mr. Little said in the asset development promotion it is clear that Wilkes lacks sites and buildings needed by today's businesses and industries. He added they have secured two options on property totaling 44 acres that can be developed. They have identified a third they are working on optioning at this time, he noted. Mr. Little said there are less old buildings available in Wilkes, but they have had success with the Department of Commerce Building Re-Use Program. He said they let the Department of Commerce know the assets and what is available in Wilkes and prepare cut sheets for them regularly. Mr. Little said they work closely with North Wilkesboro to bring industry and infrastructure to the Industrial Park, as well as to promote the Wilkes Airport. He added they support the Water Intake project.

Mr. Little stated they continue to focus on existing business and industries in Wilkes with a very active call program. He said they place a lot of attention on touching all of these folks because it would be a great loss to lose any one of them. Mr. Little added the majority of growth in the past has come from existing businesses so the EDC keeps a laser focus on them. He added in addition to these three specific areas they also advocate for growth in the municipalities, and attend meetings to stay abreast of what is going on. They also work with civic clubs and groups and present to them about EDC, he added.

Mr. Little said lastly he would like to speak about the entrepreneurship grant competition going on at this time. He said this is the third year and they will be giving away \$14,000 to six businesses some new and some existing. This year the focus was on agricultural businesses only, he added. Mr. Little thanked the Board for their time, support, and funding of the EDC.

Chairman Settle thanked Mr. Little for his time, update and the great job he does for this community and the EDC. Commissioner Elmore asked for an update on the High Country Workforce Development since the Director has left. Mr. Little stated he sits on this committee and Misty Price is the interim Director and has been there a long time, is very engaged and continues the process. He added the Director left the committee in good shape but he will be very hard to replace. Commissioner Blevins said there is an interim Director at the High County, which is Gary Page and his first priority was to hire a new Finance Director, and he has found a great person for this job. He added next Mr. Page will have to replace himself as Executive Director next. The former Workforce Director did a great job and they knew with the work he was doing that he would be moving on and will be hard to replace, he added. Commissioner Elmore asked if the Workforce Development Board hire this position. Commissioner Blevins replied the COG Executive Director and other Department heads will handle this.

The Board thanked Mr. Little for the Wilkes EDC update.

**WILKES COUNTY EMS AED CAMPAIGN** – Chairman Settle welcomed and recognized Eric Morrison, EMS Director. Mr. Morrison said last fall the EMS came before the Board with a grant from the Health Foundation who is a great partner for them, they can provide the compression devices that are placed on the ambulances. He added the second part was a public access to Defibrillators Campaign, which is something the EMS is very passionate about, as cardiac arrest is a big deal. Mr. Morrison said this means their heart has stopped and every minute counts, the faster CPR and defibrillation happens the more likely someone will survive. He added this is one of the EMS employee lead work team projects and the folks that are at the meeting and the two that had to leave are involved in leading this project. Mr. Morrison said he is very proud of them, they are doing the hard work.

Mr. Morrison said they rolled out a Facebook page announcing the campaign called the Race to Revive Campaign, and through this non-profits, church groups, and other organizations can apply to receive a defibrillator, training on how to use this as well as CPR training. He said this opened on June 1<sup>st</sup> and they have 8 applications already and will have at least 15 devices to distribute. Mr. Morrison said the first donation they would like to make is to the County Office

Building. He added a large number of staff work in this building and many members of the public are in and out the building everyday so they thought it was a great choice for their first donation of the defibrillator. Mr. Morrison said it will be placed in a location that is accessible, they will provide lunch time CPR training, and also how to use the defibrillator to help save someone's life if a cardiac arrest occurs. He added every minute that goes by after a cardiac arrest the changes of survival decrease by 10%, the EMS do the best they can to get there as quickly as possible. If someone on the scene starts CPR and if this device is available, it makes it more likely a person will survive, he added. Mr. Morrison said national statics are only 3 – 5% survive cardiac arrest, but if someone sees them collapse, begins CPR and a defibrillators is used the survival rate increases to 15 – 20%. He added in Wilkes the numbers are closer to 34% survival last year, so they are doing a great job, but this device can help the medics be even more successful along with CPR starting immediately.

Mr. Morrison thanked the Board and Mr. Yates for their support as well as the Health Foundation for providing the grant to make this possible. Chairman Settle and the Board thanked Mr. Morrison for the great job they do.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT – ROAD NAME REQUEST – BEETLE DRIVE** – Planning Director Eddie Barnes asked the Board of Commissioners to set a Public Hearing on a Road Name Request received by petition to the Planning Department. He stated the Road Name Request is for Beetle Drive, Boomer Township; the request meets the requirements of the Wilkes County Road Naming Ordinance and as required by the Wilkes County Road Naming Ordinance a Public Hearing and a ten day (10) notification period is required.

Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to set a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 9:50 A.M. regarding the Road Name Request as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Greg Minton and unanimously approved.

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES UPDATE** – Chairman Eddie Settle recognized Department of Social Services Director John Blevins. Mr. Blevins said he wanted to provide an update to the Board on some things. He stated they had a 4-E and MAC (Medicaid Administration Claim) audit since the last meeting. They reviewed 5 MAC cases and all were correct and they reviewed 10 cases for 4-E and all of these were correct, these folks do a great job, he added. Mr. Blevins said on the Medicaid audit going on where Wilkes is one of the ten counties selected they received the first quarter results from Van Guard, which is the temporary staffing agency. He stated the report says to date Van Guard has not identified any sample item from Wilkes County as inaccurate, which is very good. Mr. Blevins said the second quarter report should be in the end of June. He added they also sent an email that they will be pulling 27 applications and 74 re-certifications for third quarter. Vice Chairman Minton asked how long this audit will last. Mr. Blevins replied most of this year, and he is really proud of the staff they work really hard and do a great job.

Mr. Blevins provided the Commissioners handouts for April. He briefly went over the monthly caseload report, Foster Care financial report. Mr. Blevins said there has been an increase in the Foster Care which is putting a strain on their workers workload wise. He added there are 13

## MINUTES

June 7, 2016

Page 8 of 10

Social Workers and the typical ratio for Foster Care is 1 to 15 and  $13 \times 15 = 195$  and they have 209 in Foster Care at this time. He said the maximum is 20 and that would get them up to 260 so there is a little room, it is stressful and they are about 14 over the State Maximum. Mr. Blevins said they are hoping this number will go down. He added this increased some due to the end of school, but a lot is due to Meth, Heroin, unemployment, and depression according to the Social Workers. Chairman Settle stated the unemployment rate is about 5.3% in Wilkes, and he questions if these folks want to work, because there are help wanted signs all around. Mr. Blevins agreed and said they question this as well. Chairman Settle added it is disturbing when there are 200 kids in Child Protective Services. Mr. Blevins agreed it is a tremendous number and it strains the Foster Parents, the Workers, but they want to take care of them and protect them and they do. He added in looking at the underling factors which is the drugs it makes it very difficult to work through. Commissioner Gary D. Blevins said in talking to employers a road block they have is the applicants not passing the drug tests. He added what can be done so the people can get to the point where they are not dependent on the drugs so much that they can't be employed.

Commissioner Blevins said any time they reach the point where the Case Workers cannot complete the task and the case load is reaching the maximum that the State recommends, at this point hiring someone has to be considered. He added they have to be very sure this job is getting done correctly and a comprehensive case management is happening for each child. Mr. John Blevins said he agreed and in the proposed budget there is a new supervision position included which will help a great deal. He added before he would ask for more employees, he needs to work through this to see if it is just a bubble and will go back down. It is a balancing act and he does not want to come too quickly and ask for more, he noted. Mr. Blevins said if the proposed budget is approved the additional supervisor will help with much need oversight and cases can be closed quicker too. He added if the number stays this high longer term addition help could be needed, but there are 15 to 16 that may come off by the end of July due to aging out, adoptions and different things. Commissioner Gambill asked if the supervisors take any of the caseloads. Mr. Blevins replied no, not at this time they do not. Commissioner Gambill asked if this is an option. Mr. Blevins replied they could, but they are very busy trying to staff cases, close cases but it can always be looked at if needed. Commissioner Gambill suggested maybe they can take the cases getting ready to age out or on the CARS agreements.

Mr. Blevins said he fully respects the hard decisions the Board has to make and when he has to ask for staff, he limits this as much as possible, but will ask when he knows there is no other choice. Commissioner Blevins said he has the support if the need is there. Chairman Settle agreed and said this may be a bubble, but if not they will do what is needed. Mr. Blevins said he would ask if this is needed, but if they can work through it they will and if not he will ask for what is needed. Chairman Settle asked the reimbursement rate for CPS. Mr. Blevins replied sometimes it is 100% and sometimes it is 0, it just depends on the money available they are coding to at that time. He said the best way to look at it is the 337 report, which is overall, and the County cost is 47%.

Vice Chairman Minton said the underlying problems and why there are 200 children in Foster Care is drug abuse, poverty, depression and unemployment. Mr. Blevins said yes according to

the Social Workers. Vice Chairman Minton asked if they capture data on the underlying reasons or the opinion based on the case worker notes. Mr. Blevins stated not specific data, but yes this is from the Social Workers. Vice Chairman Minton asked if this is a disproportionately high number of foster children for the region and State for the population in Wilkes. Mr. Blevins replied yes. Vice Chairman Minton replied it seems to be excessively high. Mr. Blevins said Caldwell County is 70,000 to 80,000 population and they have about 240 – 260 Foster Children, which is pretty high, but they are a larger county. Vice Chairman Minton added they have weathered the same doom and gloom as Wilkes has. Mr. Blevins agreed and said statically Wilkes is historically high for many years. Vice Chairman Minton said it appears to be spiking even higher lately. Mr. Blevins agreed and asked his staff back over time what the all- time high was and it was 215, currently it is close to the historic all-time high. He added budget wise the numbers are fine even at this rate and not in danger of asking from additional money.

Mr. Blevins also went over the April Adoption Services financial report, Child Development and Subsidized Child Care financial reports. Mr. Blevins said the next item is a copy of the notice that went out to the food and nutrition recipients to notify them of the new work program that is coming. He said of the 13,945 individuals that receive this service there is 1,559 in this age group and of them about 815 may not be exempt and could have to meet the work requirements. Mr. Blevins said these folks are age 18 – 49 and receive FNS benefits. There is a list of the exemptions and if not exempt the work requirements they must meet are also listed, he added. Mr. Blevins said it will impact some folks in the County. He also went through the CPS Foster Care monthly reports for April.

The Board thanked Mr. Blevins for his update.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

**1. JULY 5, 2016 – DISCUSSION – CHANGE OF DATE** – Chairman Settle stated this meeting will not be moved and will remain on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 as scheduled.

**2. CANCEL JULY 19, 2016 REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING** – Chairman Settle stated the Board needs to take formal action on cancelling the second meeting in July.

Commissioner Gary D. Blevins made a motion to cancel the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners second meeting in July scheduled for July 19, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gambill and unanimously approved.

**CLOSED SESSION** – Commissioner Keith Elmore made a motion to go into Closed Session under Section 143-318.11(a)(4) of the North Carolina General Statutes to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in Wilkes County; under Section 143-318.11(a)(3) of the North Carolina General Statutes to consult with the County Attorney to consider and give instructions with respect to one or more potential judicial or administrative actions; under Section 143-318.11(a)(3) of the North Carolina General Statutes to consult with the County Attorney in order to protect the attorney-client privilege; and under Section 143-318.11(a)(5) of the North Carolina General Statutes to consider the qualifications, competence, performance,

character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the board of commissioners or of some other public body. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gambill and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill, seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and by unanimous vote adopted to adjourn back into regular session. No action was taken in the closed session.

**ADJOURN** – Motion was made by Commissioner David Gambill, seconded by Commissioner Keith Elmore and by unanimous vote adopted to adjourn the meeting of the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners at 12:25 P. M.

Sarah D. Call, Clerk

Eddie Settle, Chairman

WILKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approved: