

**April 2, 2012 8:30 A.M.**

**JONES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**JONES COUNTY OFFICE COMPLEX – COMMISSIONERS’ ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Zack Koonce, Chairman  
Frank Emory, Vice-Chairman  
Sondra Ipock-Riggs, Commissioner  
Joseph Wiggins, Commissioner  
Mike Haddock, Commissioner

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Franky J. Howard, County Manager  
Jennifer King, Clerk to the Board  
Jimmie B. Hicks, County Attorney  
Melissa Moore-Freeman, Finance Officer

The Chairman called the meeting to order and Sondra Ipock-Riggs gave the invocation. A **MOTION** was made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the agenda be approved with the following addition:

**15. Progress Energy – Lighting Retrofit Project**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the minutes of March 19, 2012, be approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

John Pickard asked the Board why the County does not have a veterans’ preference policy. Mr. Pickard stated that he understood the Board could not answer questions during public comment period but thinks the Board should adopt a veterans’ preference policy.

James Gutai presented statistics on military dollars received by Jones County. Mr. Gutai also requested a copy of the minutes in which the audit report was presented. Mr. Gutai claims that the auditors cited a class 1 violation that the County Finance Office cannot detect fraud and the commissioners are willing to take this risk. Mr. Gutai believes this motion voids the County’s insurance policy.

Russell Metts stated that Article 32 of the constitution states that no person shall deny the being of God. Mr. Metts also stated that to throw Jesus’ name to the curb is not what the people want. The majority should rule and not the minority.

Joey Collins stated that he had researched the Alliance Defense Fund on the internet and there are over 2,100 lawyers willing to defend the County if a suit was brought against the County in regards to prayer and the Alliance Defense Fund could fund this cause.

Wilbur Parker stated that the County shouldn’t cower because another County lost the prayer suit and that we should stand up for what we believe in. Mr. Parker would like to know where each Board member stands on the prayer issue. Any Commissioner that doesn’t believe we should pray will not be elected in the next election.

Debbie Metts stated that it is unclear as to the position the Board will take. She understands that the County was advised by the County attorney not to pray because there might be a lawsuit. There are plenty of lawyers that would help us fight this cause. Mrs. Metts stated that the County shouldn't operate on advise of a threat. Mrs. Metts requested a public statement from the Commissioners on where they stand on this topic.

### **1. UPDATE ON PRAYER IN COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS**

Mr. Howard explained that at our last meeting citizens requested that the prayer issue be placed on the ballot in November. Mr. Howard was able to contact the Elections Office and the State Board of Elections states that the prayer issue cannot be placed on the ballot unless authorized by the General Assembly as a nonbinding referendum. **MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Joe Wiggins, and unanimously carried **THAT** the County request in writing that the prayer issue be placed on the November ballot as a nonbinding referendum. There was some discussion concerning a letter to the ACLU complaining about the prayer in Jones County Commissioners meetings. Jimmie Hicks, County Attorney, explained that no letter was issued to the ACLU, the complaint was made by telephone. The citizens that were present wanted to know the name of the citizen making the complaint. Mr. Hicks explained that it is not required for the ACLU to provide a name of the person who complained. Frank Emory stated that the Board should make a decision today concerning the prayer in Board meetings. **MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board continues to pray as they always have.

### **2. DEBT SETOFF REFUNDS**

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** debt setoff refunds be approved as presented. A copy of the refunds is marked Exhibit A and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

### **3. COUNTY COMPUTER FUND REQUEST – SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Frank Emory, and unanimously carried **THAT** the purchase of a new server, software, and computer packages from JNB Tek LLC be approved for the Sheriff's Office at a cost of \$12,410.39 using County Computer Funds. A copy of the invoice for these purchases is marked Exhibit B and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

### **4. COUNTY COMPUTER FUND REQUEST - ELECTIONS**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the purchase of a laptop from Intercomp Systems for the Elections Office be approved at a cost of \$575 using County Computer Funds.

### **5. BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER 19**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** Budget Amendment Number 19 be approved, a copy of which is marked Exhibit C and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

## **6. NCACC DISTRICT MEETING**

A discussion was held concerning the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) District Meeting to be held April 25, 2012, in Wallace.

## **7. ABC PERMIT**

A discussion was held concerning the request from the Pelhams for an ABC permit for B&M Grocery Store in Pollocksville. Based upon the background checks, the Sheriff's Department recommended approval for the permit. **MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Frank Emory, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board does not approve the issuance of an ABC Permit for B&M General Store. Jimmie Hicks, County Attorney, explained that the ABC Board allows comment from the County, but ultimately the ABC Board has the authority to issue or deny the permit.

## **8. GOVDEALS – SURPLUS ITEMS FOR SALE**

**MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Joe Wiggins, and unanimously carried **THAT** the list of items to sale on GovDeals be approved as presented. A copy of the list is marked Exhibit D and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

## **9. LEE'S CHAPEL HYDRANT UPDATE**

Franky Howard, County Manager, explained to the Board that the fire hydrant on Lee's Chapel Road has been repaired.

## **10. 2012 NACO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The Board discussed the NACO Annual Conference to be held in July. Sondra Ipock-Riggs stated that the County should not approve for other departments to attend the conference, except for those sessions that directly relate to their department functions. Jimmie Hicks explained that the Board can control this cost for other departments during the budget process. **MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Frank Emory and carried **THAT** the Board only allow employees and board members to attend conferences when the agenda is pertinent to their department functions. Mike Haddock explained that he is not in favor of dictating what other boards do related to meetings and conferences. Mike Haddock **OPPOSED** the motion. Joe Wiggins **ABSTAINED** from voting. It was explained to Mr. Wiggins that abstaining in this case would be considered a yes vote and Mr. Wiggins explained that he understood.

## **11. INVOICE – SUMRELL, SUGG, CARMICHAEL, HICKS & HART, P.A.**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** an invoice from Sumrell, Sugg, Carmichael, Hicks & Hart, P.A. be approved for payment in the amount of \$2,163.41.

## **12. STATE EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION LAND PURCHASE**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board approves the EDC recommendation to offer 2.5 acres of land in the industrial park to the State Employees Credit Union at a purchase price of \$100,000.

### **13. CAPITAL REQUEST – COOPERATIVE EXTENSION – LCD PROJECTOR**

**MOTION** made by Frank Emory, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the purchase of a Canon LV-7490 Projector from Projector Central be approved at a cost of approximately \$1,000 using SHIIP funds.

### **14. CLOSED SESSION UNDER NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)**

**MOTION** made by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, seconded by Mike Haddock, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board go into Closed Session under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) in regards to the EMT versus Jones County case.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the Board go out of Closed Session.

### **15. PROGRESS ENERGY LIGHTING RETROFIT PROJECT**

Gary Andrews from Progress Energy, Richard Miller, former Jones County Building Inspector, and Bill Franklin from Jones County Public Schools were present to discuss the lighting retrofit project. Mr. Andrews explained that the County applied jointly with the school system and was successfully awarded \$403,000 for a lighting retrofit project for energy efficiency. Mr. Franklin explained that the school system has already seen a reduction in energy costs due to this project.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Howard informed the Board that the State 911 Board grant was submitted.

The Civic Center is complete with the exception of paint and duct work.

The old Lenoir Community College building is currently being renovated to become the new Jones County Public Safety Complex. The goal is to complete this project by May 30, 2012. Renovations are being conducted at no cost to the County. The Sheriff's Office staff will relocate to this building once complete.

The budget meetings originally scheduled to begin on April 9, 2012, were postponed to begin on April 16, 2012, at 3:30 p.m.

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

*Sondra Ipock-Riggs –*

Mrs. Ipock-Riggs expressed her concerns over an internal operations policy book missing for the EMS Department. Mrs. Ipock-Riggs stated that the policy book had been written by herself and a couple others. Mr. Howard will look into this matter.

*Zack Koonce –*

Mr. Koonce informed the Board of issues concerning salaries for the Eastern Carolina Behavioral Health staff.

**MOTION** made by Joe Wiggins, seconded by Sondra Ipock-Riggs, and unanimously carried **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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Zack Koonce  
Chairman

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Jennifer King  
Clerk to the Board

# EXHIBIT A

DEBT SETOFF REPORT  
03/23/2012



NAME AND ADDRESS	AMOUNT	ACCOUNT #
Justin Lee Dixon 1636 Small Town Rd. Pink Hill, NC 28572	\$131.91	26107
Jenna Drescher 6301 Linda Lake Ct. Charlotte, NC 28215	\$47.23	29477
Samuel Ervin 180 Ervin Lane Trenton, NC 28585	\$62.39	17460
Total	\$241.53	

County rec'd \$1,508.46	Tax, Health, EMS rec'd \$1,446.07
	Plus surplus of \$62.39
	\$1,508.46
Tax Dept rec'd \$ 662.25 less refunds \$179.14	
	less refund of
	<u>surplus amount \$62.39</u>
	\$241.53

Total amount credited to Tax Dept is \$483.11

# EXHIBIT B



**JNB Tek LLC**

403 8th St.  
Maysville, NC 28555

Date 3/22/2012  
Estimate # 196

**Name / Address**

County of Jones  
Attn: Franky Howard  
P.O. Box 340  
Trenton, NC 28585

Item	Description	Qty
Server	Intel I7 w/ 16GB Ram, 256GB SSD, 2x2TB HDD in raid 1	1
software	Server 2008 Standard 64 bit	1
software	Server 2008 Terminal Server CAL's (5)	3
Remote Terminal Box	Remote Terminal Thin-client	13
	(2) remote USB 2.0	
	Microphone jack	
	Speaker jack	
	USB 1.1 keyboard & mouse	
	VGA monitor	
Wireless keyboard/mouse c...	Logitech Wireless Keyboard/Mouse	13
20" LCD Monitor Wide (Han...	20" Wide screen LCD	13
Labor	Install standard software on server, setup 13 remote thin clients mounted on back of 20" LCD monitors.	14
	Any custom software install/migration billed hourly	

I authorize the work  
on this quote to begin.

<b>Subtotal</b>	\$11,696.48
<b>Sales Tax (6.75%)</b>	\$713.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,410.39</b>

JNB Tek LLC

# EXHIBIT C

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## Budget Amendment

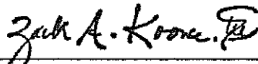
Date: 4/2/2012  
Fund: General  
Fiscal Year: 2011 - 2012 Amendment #19

### Increase Revenues

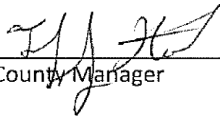
Food and Lodging	Revenue	11-0211-4518-01	1,079.00
Total			\$ 1,079.00

### Increase Expenditures

Food and Lodging	Mileage	11-5181-5311-00	300.00
Food and Lodging	Contract Services	11-5181-5440-13	779.00
Total			\$ 1,079.00



Chairman



County Manager



Clerk to the Board



Finance Officer



## EXHIBIT D



### Gov Deals Surplus Items Request

Easel  
Antique Desk  
Kitchen & Utility Cabinets with Countertops & Garbage Disposal  
15 Metal Hildes Lights  
15 High Bay Lights  
Lecturer  
Podium  
Magazine Rack  
Couch, 2 chairs, and 2 tables  
Pepsi Clock  
Triple Commercial Stainless Steel Sink  
Rectangle Conference Table  
11' Conference Table  
8' Conference Table  
30" Door  
36" Door  
36" Door  
Kenmore Oven  
40 Gallon Water Heater  
50 Gallon Water Heater  
Jenn-Air Range  
Frigidaire Dishwasher  
WestLo Stair Stepper  
Body by Jake Cardio Cruiser  
2 Lights  
Neck Machine  
Laboratory Cabinets with countertop and backsplash