

September 26, 2018

The Martin County Board of Commissioners met in Special Called Session on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Martin County Governmental Center, Commissioners' Boardroom at 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina.

ASSEMBLY

Those in attendance: Chairman Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Vice Chairman Tommy Bowen, Commissioner Ronnie Smith, Commissioner Dempsey Bond, Jr., Commissioner Joe R. Ayers, County Manager David Bone, Clerk to the Board Marion B. Thompson, Deputy Clerk Jessica Godard, and Finance Director/Deputy Clerk Cindy Ange.

County Attorney J. Melvin Bowen was not in attendance.

Chairman Lilley called the meeting to order around 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Bond led the pledge of allegiance. Vice Chairman Bowen provided the invocation.

Chairman Lilley extended a welcome to each one in attendance. Chairman Lilley recognized Chief Deputy Sheriff Drew Robinson.

AGENDA APPROVAL

The following item was suggested for inclusion in the agenda:

- Resolution of Appreciation – Ms. Marion Thompson

Vice Chairman Bowen made the MOTION to approve the agenda as revised, with a SECOND by Commissioner Bond. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Resolution of Appreciation – Ms. Marion B. Thompson

Commissioner Smith made the MOTION to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for retiring Clerk to the Board/Executive Assistant Marion Thompson, with a SECOND by Commissioner Ayers. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Before the presentation, the Board of Commissioners and the County Manager commended and extended gratitude to Clerk to the Board/Executive Assistant Thompson for her years of service to the Board, County Manager, Department Heads/Office Holders and the citizens of Martin County.

Mr. William Thompson, Sr., her spouse, was in attendance. A group photo was taken of Chairman Lilley, Vice Chairman Bowen, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Bond, and Commissioner Ayers, County Manager Bone, County Clerk Thompson, Mr. Thompson, and Deputy Clerk, soon to be Clerk to the Board/Executive Assistant, Jessica Godard, effective October 1, 2018.

County Clerk Thompson thanked the Board for the (opportunity) and privilege of service.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
MS. MARION B. THOMPSON

WHEREAS, Ms. Marion B. Thompson has served Martin County humbly and faithfully for nearly two decades; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson served as the Clerk to the Board of Martin County Commissioners in the most professional manner since 2010; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her duties as Clerk to the Board and Executive Assistant to the County Manager, Ms. Thompson served in various other roles, including Secretary for the Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority Board since 2010 and Secretary for the Animal Control Board of Appeals since 2011; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson served on various other boards including the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, the Interagency Council, and the Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson expressed her desire to excel in her profession by obtaining and maintaining certifications and training through the University of North Carolina School of Government, earning certification in County Administration; and

WHEREAS, Other certifications and designations that Ms. Thompson earned include North Carolina Certified County Clerk (NCCCC) and North Carolina Master Certified County Clerk (NCMCC), which further exemplify her professionalism and dedication to Martin County Government; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has been fundamental in assisting to create current policies and procedures for Martin County and its employees that will be instrumental in the future of the Martin County workforce; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson exemplifies professionalism in the areas of interpersonal skills, work ethic, and decision-making, making Ms. Thompson a role model for many of her peers; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has set such a wonderful example for her colleagues and those who will succeed her in the role of Clerk to the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners hereby sincerely honors, recognizes and thanks Ms. Marion B. Thompson for her commitment, dedication, and professionalism to Martin County Government and the Martin County Board of Commissioners over the last 18 years.

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2018.

Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

Jessica Godard, Deputy Clerk to the Board

PUBLIC HEARING

2nd Public Hearing – 2018 Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) Funds Application

The 2nd public hearing was duly advertised and opened to public comments, in accordance with Section 104 (a)(2) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, 24 CFR Part 570.486 of the State CDBG Regulations, the State Consolidated Plan Regulations at 24 CFR Part 91, and 04 NCAC 19.L.1002 Citizen Participation.

Vice Chairman Bowen made the MOTION to enter the 2nd public hearing for the 2018 Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) funds application, with a SECOND by Commissioner Bond. The Board unanimously APPROVED the motion.

Project Manager Mike Barnette, of McDavid Associates stated the NC Department of Commerce was receiving applications for the “CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization” grant also known as CDBG-NR grant. The total funding available was stated to be \$10,000,000. Grant requests would be accepted up to \$750,000.

Project Manager Barnette reported Martin County had received over 100 requests for assistance for rehabilitation in the Essentials Single Family Rehabilitation-Disaster Recovery (ESFRLP-DR) program. The program was a “rehabilitation” program with the maximum assistance of \$40,000. Approximately 30 of the 100 applicant units were deemed ineligible for the ESFRLP-DR program because housing conditions were estimated to take more than \$40,000 to rehabilitate.

Programs currently in place, primarily through the Housing Finance Agency, rehabilitate moderately deteriorated homes. However, the programs no longer exist, which previously funded replacement of dilapidated housing.

Project Manager Barnette recommended the following for CDBG-NR funding application:

- Utilize the database of existing applicants from the County’s housing programs.
- Determine which of the units can be considered as dilapidated or it probably would take more money to fix the house than the value of the house with a reasonable size lot.
- Have McDavid Associates housing inspectors review the units and demographics to develop information to provide to a Housing Selection Committee of a minimum of 3 members to be selected by the County Manager.
- Have the Committee select 4 framed homes and 2 mobile homes to include in the application for assistance. The homes would need to be owner occupied LMI homes and the replacement homes must be real property.

The program would not require a local match but additional points would be considered for grant applications with local contributions commitment. The Board was asked to consider a local

contribution of \$8000 to be paid over three years. Much of the contribution would be recaptured through increased property values and payment for County efforts over the course of the life of the program.

The original application deadline of September 28, 2018 had been extended to October 31, 2018, due to Hurricane Florence ripping havoc on North Carolina.

The Board was asked to receive public comments, to approve the suggested program application or as modified, consider a local match, to authorize the Chairman to sign the application paperwork, and to authorize the Chairman to approve the minutes for the 1st and 2nd public hearing for submission with the 2018 CDBG-NR grant application.

Public Comments

Ms. Patricia Mooring, of the Hamilton area, accompanied by Mr. William Clark, a barber in the Robersonville area inquired about the availability of funds for Mr. Clark's business through the potential CDBG-NR grant, as a historically underutilized business.

Project Manager Barnette agreed the historically underutilized business (HUB) program was created to promote full and equal procurement opportunities for small, minority and women-owned businesses. However, HUB businesses in areas of construction and renovation, for example, would be solicited and encouraged to bid on these projects.

Ms. Mooring inquired as to whether those who had applied for funding previously, and had not been selected for home improvements needed to re-apply, since this was a new CDBG grant.

Project Manager Barnette replied this grant application would be for those homes that needed repairs but had been deemed unrepairable or beyond the repair funding limits set per housing unit for other grants. Those applicants already in the data base need not re-apply.

At the conclusion of the public comments, Commissioner Bond made the MOTION to end the 2nd public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) funds application, with a SECOND by Commissioner Ayers. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to approve the submittal of the 2018 CDBG-NR program grant application, with a SECOND by Vice Chairman Bowen. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to authorize the Chairman to sign the application paperwork, and to authorize the Chairman to approve the minutes for the 1st and 2nd public hearing for submission with the 2018 CDBG-NR grant application. Commissioner Ayers SECONDED the motion. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to include Martin County's commitment of a local contribution of \$8,000, as part of the grant application. Commissioner Ayers SECONDED the motion. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Bowen made the MOTION to adjourn at 7:22 p.m., with a SECOND by Commissioner Bond. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Vice Chairman

Marion B. Thompson, NCCCC, NCMCC
Clerk to the Board