

May 4, 2006

The Martin County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session with the Martin County Board of Education at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at the Northeast Technology and Business Center, 419 East Boulevard, Williamston, North Carolina.

ASSEMBLY

Chairman C. Mort Hurst, Vice Chairman Tommy W. Bowen, Commissioners Ronnie Smith, Elmo “Butch” Lilley and Alphonzo Perry, County Manager W. Russell Overman and Clerk to the Board Linda G. Hardison were present. No one was absent.

Members of the Board of Education who were present included Chairman Dave Markel, Vice Chairman Gene Scott, Jackie Carr, Peggy Wilson, Kenneth Harrell, Moses Matthews, Van Heath, Superintendent Tom Daly and Secretary to the Board Vivian Slade. No one was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hurst called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Bowen led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance after which Commissioner Smith offered the Invocation.

Chairman Hurst then introduced members of the Board, staff, Amanda Bunch of *The Enterprise*, and the two Finance Officers – Cindy Ange of the County and Karen Rogerson of the Board of Education.

After thanking everyone for their attendance, Chairman Hurst turned the meeting over to Chairman Markel who called the Board of Education’s meeting to order. He then introduced his members and staff.

AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION by Commissioner Smith, SECOND by Vice Chairman Bowen, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION APPROVED by a unanimous vote of the Board.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

Chairman Markel began the presentation by stating that the majority of the items listed in the Capital Outlay budget has been requested in previous years and were not funded; however, the need for these items have not diminished.

Chairman Markel turned the meeting over to Dr. Daly who presented the Capital Outlay requests in the total amount of \$1,521,651.

MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET SUMMARY
2006-2007

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>
Bear Grass	\$ 51,800
Williamston Primary	61,194
E. J. Hayes	82,100
East End	101,460
Edna Andrews	113,000
Jamesville Elementary	26,054
Jamesville High	19,400
Roanoke High School	56,640
Robersonville Middle	48,500

Rodgers	13,550
Williamston High	116,549
Williamston Middle	7,090
Transportation	53,850
Maintenance	196,100
Technology	349,100
Vocational	1,000
School Food Service	113,200
Other	111,064
GRAND TOTAL CAPITAL REQUESTS	\$ 1,521,651

Following Dr. Daly's review of each school's request, the Commissioners had an opportunity to ask questions concerning capital outlay needs.

Commissioner Smith questioned the condition of the stage at the WHS Auditorium. Dr. Daly responded that the stage floor was designed to be the way it is. Then Vice Chairman Bowen asked if the curtain at RHS had been replaced. Dr. Daly said he could not answer that but he would find out.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the different paving requests. Commissioner Lilley pointed out the escalating costs of paving and stated that these requests really need to be addressed. Mr. Scott took this opportunity to point out that construction costs are also escalating and the building needs should be addressed as well.

The next topic of discussion was mold. Dr. Daly assured the Board that there is no problem with air quality. He explained the testing procedure and informed the Board that where there is mold on walls it is being taken care of with Clorox.

The Board then discussed the press boxes and questioned if sports clubs, etc. could take care of these requests. Dr. Daly explained that a certified contractor had to make these repairs because of building inspections and certain specifications that must be met.

Chairman Hurst stated that Capital Outlay requests have increased over 55% from last year's allocation. The two Boards then discussed the amount of monies coming from sales tax and the amount coming from the County. Chairman Hurst stated that the bulk of allocations come from sales tax revenues.

Commissioner Perry questioned the cost of maintaining the building at East End for the number of students housed there. He asked if another location could be found that would be more economical. He reiterated that he was not asking for the Alternative School to be eliminated but was looking at the cost of operating and maintaining this location.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the softball field that was sold years ago in Robersonville. He stated that when the softball field was sold, part of the money was supposed to go to the Town of Robersonville to be used to build another ball field. He reviewed the history of this situation and emphasized that towns, communities and schools need to work together. Board member Kenneth Harrell disagreed with the information Chairman Hurst presented. He then gave his view of what transpired. Commissioner Smith stated that he was aware of the situation and had checked with the Robersonville Town Manager about the reason children had to wait to play ball at the high school. He said the information he received was the same as explained by Chairman Hurst. Dr. Daly stated that according to minutes of the Board of Education there was no record of any agreement with the Town of Robersonville. Chairman Markel suggested that a joint meeting be scheduled with the Town of Robersonville.

CURRENT EXPENSE REQUESTS

Before Dr. Daly's presentation, Chairman Markel cited three critical expansion items that need close attention.

1. Increase teacher supplement by \$250 (\$500 to \$750). Includes SS and retirement costs.
2. Begin a five year process to place employees on the correct level of the State Salary Scale (Clerical, Custodial and Maintenance/Transportation employees).
3. Technology Technicians – increase positions from two to five.

Dr. Daly then explained the 2006-2007 Current Expense Budget Summary.

2006-2007 Current Expense Budget Summary

Baseline Expenditures with Mandated State/Federal Increases	\$ 6,197,976
Critical Budget Expansion Items	343,671
Other Expansion Items Under Consideration	449,400
Total Draft Budget Request	\$ 6,991,047

Other Expansion Items

Extended Employment	
Middle School Assistant Principals	\$ 12,000
Elementary School Assistant principals	24,000
Additional Personnel	
Additional Clerical Assistance for Schools	24,000
Additional Custodial Assistance at all Schools	48,000
At-Risk Student Counselor	45,000
HOST Coordinators	120,000
School Counselor at Rodgers and Edna Andrews	46,000
Support for NC Symphony Performance	8,000
Reimburse coaches for attendance at athletic conferences	2,400
School Based instructional Technology Coordinators	120,000
Other Expansion Sub Total	\$ 449,400

Dr. Daly explained that the requests include a 7-10% increase in salary of teachers and 5% increase in salary for other staff. He also explained that when a retired teacher comes back the Board of Education has to pay the entire amount of retirement taken out of the teacher's check. He then explained the Current Expense Requests and projected revenues. Keeping with the same allocation from the County as last year, the 2006-2007 budget requests fall short \$901,624.

Commissioner Lilley thanked Dr. Daly for the information he had provided to the Commissioners and asked what the anticipated projection is for Martin County from the lottery. The two Boards discussed the lottery and anticipated funding from it.

Chairman Hurst thanked Dr. Daly for his well-prepared presentation. He stated that the Board will prioritize the requests when budgeting the money the County has to work with.

With no further business to discuss, a MOTION was made by Commissioner Lilley, SECONDED by Commissioner Smith, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION APPROVED by a unanimous vote of the Board. The meeting was adjourned a 8:40 p.m.

Chairman Markel called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Education.

C. Mort Hurst, Chairman

Linda G. Hardison, Clerk to the Board

