

**Montgomery County Commissioner's Meeting
February 7, 2006**

**Chairman – William D. Maness
Vice Chairman – Sally M. Morris
Commissioner – Dolon W. Corbett
Commissioner – R.C. Bostic
Commissioner – George H. Knight, Jr.
County Manager – Lance L. Metzler
Finance Officer - Cathy S. Baxter
Clerk to the Board – Laura B. Morton
County Attorney – Russell J. Hollers**

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Assembly Room. A full Board was present. Chairman Maness reconvened the meeting and the following was heard:

Invocation

Rev. Anne Beach from the Rev. Anne Beach, Biscoe Presbyterian Church

Approval of the January 17, 2006 Minutes

Chairman Maness said Mrs. Morton needs to make an addition to the minutes. The January 17 minutes will be on the next meeting agenda for approval.

Public Forum

Rev. Harold Pope was scheduled to address the board concerning the need for more hotels in the County. Mr. Metzler said he contacted Paul Singal, the owner of Days Inn in Biscoe said yesterday based on their recent analysis the need is not yet there. When they built in 1998-1999 they also bought three other properties in Montgomery County for future hotel/motel sites. Mr. Singal said that the Days Inn were doing well when all of the local plants were up and running but when we lost Springs and Renfro there clientele dwindled drastically and now the need is just not there. He said that he would have to see a lot more activity for justifying another construction.

Commissioner Bostic said he would like to take advantage of this public forum. He said he would be remiss if he didn't say something about a young lady that has been eulogized today in Georgia, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the wife of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King. The work that they have done has made it possible that even Commissioner Knight and myself are able to serve on this prestigious Board. All Americans are better off because of their lives. Montgomery County hasn't had the problems that other Counties have had because we have had proper clear thinking people. I remember in the late 80s and early 90s, a group of citizens, I was with them along with Commissioner Knight. We petitioned the Board of County Commissioners that we divide this County into districts, that we might be able to elect minorities as representation. That group of Commissioners saw fit to do that. It wasn't any court action, it was done through a consent decree. In 2000, another Board came by and sought to do away with that consent decree and spent an enormous amount of County dollars, over \$100,000. That money could have been used, in my opinion, for more noble purposes for

things this County could have used such as education, Head Start Program, or the Montgomery County Fellows Program. Now that I am nearing the end of my tenure, I hope that the Commissioners that are serving now and those coming after me will see fit not to spend County money that frivolously and that selfishly. Hopefully, we can move on in the works that Dr. King and his wife have done and we can live together in harmony in this County. Thank you Mr. Chairman Maness.

Presentation from the Department of Transportation

Mr. Kevin Hedrick, District Engineer with the Department of Transportation was present along with Timothy Johnson, Division Engineer, Richard Hancock, Division Maintenance Engineer, and Harold Matthews, County Maintenance Engineer. *Mr. Hedrick presented the following:*

Highway Funds 2005-2006

Funds 2005-2006 Proposed Allocation (Approximate)	\$864,091
Unallocated Highway Funds	23,061
Funds Needed To Complete Work In Progress	<u>356,117</u>
Total Available	\$521,117

Program Elements

- I. Paving of unpaved roads down the priority list as right of way
 And funds allow, approximately\$375,000
 - Map #1 – Priority #1F Subdivision – SR 1332 (Anchor Drive)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from
 SR 1185 to end – 0.04 miles..... \$10,000
 - Map #2 – Priority #2F Subdivision – SR 1231 (Cape Lane)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from SR 1185
 to end – 0.10 miles \$15,000
 - Map #3 – Priority #3F Subdivision – SR 1195 (Deerfield Circle)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from SR 1138
 to begin of pavement – 0.28 miles \$30,000
 - Map #4 – Priority #4F Subdivision – SR 1230 (Tillery Park Drive)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from SR 1181
 to end – 0.35 miles \$35,000
 - Map #5 – Priority #5F Subdivision – SR 12228 (Memory Lane)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from SR 1134
 to end – 0.120 miles \$25,000
 - Map #6 – Priority #1F Rural – SR 1111-A (Fairview Farm Road)
 Grade, drain, base, pave and erosion control from SR 1110
 to SR 1112 – 1.50 miles\$260,000
- II. Maintenance reserve for spot stabilization, paved road
 Improvements, replace small bridges with pipe or safety

Projects..... \$93,060

III. Retain Approximately 10% Of Available Funds For Road Additions, Property Owner Participation Paving, Volunteer Fire Department And Rescue Squad Driveways, Old Subdivision Improvement Program, Overruns, Countywide Surveys And Right Of Way Acquisition..... \$52,975

Program Subject To Availability Funding, Right Of Way And Environmental Review.

Should right of way become available on any roads which have been skipped because right of way was previously not available, priority will be given to funding and scheduling the previously skipped roads.

Trust Funds 2005-2006

Funds 2005-2006 Proposed Allocation	\$697,313
Unallocated Trust Funds	12,242
Funds needed to complete work in progress	<u>130,000</u>
Total Available	\$579,555

Program Elements:

I. Paving Of Unpaved Roads Down The Priority List As Right Of Way And Funds Allow, Approximately\$425,000

Map #7 – SR 1134 (Tower Road) – From R/W Hold List (3.15 Miles Unpaved) – Grade, Drain, Base, Pave And Erosion Control From SR 1314 North For 2.0 Miles\$425,000

II. Maintenance Reserve For Spot Stabilization, Paved Road Improvements, Replace Small Bridges With Pipe, Or Safety Projects.....\$100,842

III. Retain Approximately 9% Of Available Funds For Road Additions, Property Owner Participation Paving, Volunteer Fire Department And Rescue Driveways, Old Subdivision Improvement Program, Overruns, County Wide Surveys And Right Of Way Acquisition \$53,713

Program Subject To Availability Funding, Right Of Way And Environmental Review.

Should right of way become available on any roads which have been skipped because right of way was previously not available, priority will be given to funding and scheduling the previously skipped roads.

A motion was made by Commissioner Corbett to approve the 2005-2006 Secondary Improvement Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morris and the motion carried unanimously. *The following resolution was also part of the motion:*

**RESOLUTION APPROVING MONTGOMERY COUNTY
SECONDARY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006**

WHEREAS, North Carolina of Transportation staff members appeared before the Montgomery County Board of commissioners during the regular meeting of Tuesday, February 7, 2006, to present the 2005-2006 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, each Commissioner was presented a copy of the program, and background information was provided along with objectives of the Secondary Road Improvement Program. Funding availability for each element of the program was also discussed and questions from Board members were answered.

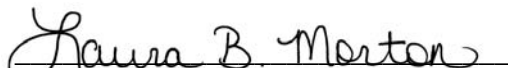
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners approved the Secondary Road Improvement Program for FY 2005-2006 as presented by the Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 7th day of February 2006.




William D. Maness, Chairman
Montgomery County
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board

Consent Agenda

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Knight, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. *The Consent Agenda included the following:*

- Set February 14, 2006 to hold a Capital Improvement Workshop (9:30 – noon)
- Set March 14, 2006 to hold a Strategic Planning Process Workshop (9:30 – noon)
- Set March 28, 2006 to hold a Workshop on Suggested Rules of Procedures (9:30 – noon)
- Award of Engineering Contract for Mountaire Farms – Hobbs Upchurch & Associates
- Set Board of Equalization and Review Dates (April 4 at 5 p.m. & April 18 at 5 p.m.)
- Approval of Tax Releases in the amount of \$3,162.33.
- Budget Amendment – Capital Improvement Fund - 36/06 - \$240,000.00
- Budget Amendment – WIC Program – 37/06 (New State Funding) - \$2,697.00
- Budget Amendment – Bioterrorism – 38/06 (New State Funding) - \$2,000.00
- Budget Amendment – Social Services - 39/06 (New State Funding) - \$4,069.00
- Budget Amendment – Social Services - 40/06 (New State Funding) - \$12,993.00
- Budget Amendment – CJPP – 41/06 – (New Grant) - \$24,900.00

Water Line Update

Tim Carpenter from Hobbs Upchurch gave an update on current water line projects. Chairman Maness said I noticed on the maps that some of the roads in the project were left out. Mr. Carpenter said it was due to a problem in their mapping process. He told the Board he would get them a more accurate map with a detailed listing.

Mr. Carpenter told the Board there is another potential sewer project in the works for Parker and Pemberton Roads located off NC Hwy 109 S. He explained the Town of Mt. Gilead requested that he do a cost analysis.

Commissioner Corbett asked if the people along 109 S were promised sewer when the line was being ran to Homanit. Mr. Carpenter said at the time, there wasn't much interest by the town to do that. Commissioner Bostic said that is one thing that was made clear, that the residents could hook on.

Mr. Carpenter also updated the Board on the progress with Handy Sanitary.

Commissioner Corbett asked Mr. Carpenter if he was aware that the President is talking about cutting CDBG funds, and asked Mr. Carpenter if this would affect the Handy Sanitary project. Mr. Carpenter said no because that project is mostly loan money.

Commissioner Knight was concerned about the water in the area near Harris Funeral Home. He said there used to be a trash dump and with the funeral home being there, he wondered if the water was good. Mr. Carpenter said there is some public water in that area.

Fund Balance Request Report

Mrs. Cathy Baxter announced that the total fund balance request as of January 17, 2006 was \$237,982. Commissioner Corbett requested a copy. Mrs. Baxter said that total fund balance at the end of January was \$7,342,412. Commissioner Bostic asked if that was above 8% required by the LGC. Mrs. Baxter said yes.

Update on Meeting with First Bank re: Fraud Program

Mrs. Cathy Baxter gave the Board an update on the meeting with First Bank regarding their Fraud program. Mrs. Baxter said we determined it would not be advantageous to have this program at this time. Mr. Metzler said we have begun to require two signatures.

Budget Calendar

Mrs. Cathy Baxter said that she is modifying the budget calendar that is included in the packet. Chairman Maness said that he would like to change the process a little bit to only hear budget requests from the larger departments and the Schools.

County Manager's Report

RCATS Request

- We have received a letter from Roger King, with RCATS, requesting the utilization of the remaining space in the basement level of the Chamber of Commerce building.
- There are currently in dire need of space and are considering hiring an additional staff person.
- They are requesting the Commissioner's assistance in allowing them to utilize the additional space that we have down there.
- From my prospective, I do not see a problem with allowing them to use the additional space.
- As the Commissioner's requested, we advertised the space for rent and did not get one inquiry.
- Besides, from my understanding from the director of Social Services, RCATS will relocate at the new Social Services building.
- Once they move, the entire space will be opened back up for the County's use.
- \$300.00. Recommend \$400.00.

In a motion made by Commissioner Bostic, seconded by Commissioner Corbett, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the expansion of RCATS in the basement of the Montgomery County Economic Development Building. The Board requested that Mr. Metzler check if raising the rent would hurt the local transportation budget.

Personnel Policy Amendment

- The Commissioners have approved a personnel policy amendment relating to employees who fill an interim position until it is filled.
- The Commissioners have wanted to develop a policy so that everyone is treated equally.
- I proposed a 5% increase in their pay during this time.
- After the meeting, I was contacted by a few who a serving in the capacity of interim and felt that it would not be worth the additional headaches for such a minimal boost in salary.
- I asked Pauline to contact several counties comparable to our size and find out what they do.
- She said most go with a 10% increase in the employees pay.
- I would ask that the Commissioner's amend Article III, Section 6 of our Personnel Policy to change 5% to 10% to make it equitable for our staff to fill interim positions.

Commissioner Knight said he had a few concerns about this amendment. Mr. Knight said there are several items in the personnel policy we need to address and this is one of them. He said some of the items could cause a financial burden. He was also concerned about people who want to manipulate the system. He said it needs to be spelled out. Mr. Metzler asked Commissioner Knight to call him and he would go over it with him. The board tabled this request.

Upcoming Meetings

- I have provided you with a list of various meetings for you to put on your calendar.
- We have quite a hectic schedule between now and April 18th.
- We have tentatively scheduled 25 meetings between now and then.

Counsel for Landfill Negotiations

- The Commissioners, at our last meeting, requested that I get a not-to-exceed figure from the Nelson Mullins law firm.
- The quote was \$15,000.
- I recommend that the Commissioner's accept this not-to-exceed amount so that we can continue with drawing up an expansion agreement.

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Morris, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the not to exceed amount of \$15,000.

County/Town Meeting

- Just a reminder that I have scheduled a joint meeting with the Towns and the County to discuss what projects that are going and ways that we can work together.
- It will be at Jeff Allen's kitchen in Biscoe on February 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Fibrowatt

- I am pleased to report to the Commissioner's that Montgomery County has been short listed for the site for Fibrowatt.
- They will be locating to sites in North Carolina and the look at Montgomery County as very favorable. They feel that our central proximity with access to highways is a great fit for them not to mention that many poultry farms are located near by.
- Judy Stevens and I have been meeting with Fibrowatt's executive staff here and in Greensboro. They have really been impressed with the County.
- Just for the benefit of the public. Fibrowatt is a company who produces an alternate source for energy. The conventional sources are hydro, fossil, coal and nuclear but Fibrowatt collect the chicken ash or litter or waste and burns it to create electricity.
- It could be very beneficial for the County because it could help us diversify our revenue streams. We are at a critical time with our hosiery industries closing down and we need to have other sources other than relying heavily on real estate taxpayers.
- Fibrowatt is looking to spend on capital outlay anywhere from \$150 to \$200 million.
- They will be providing 50 to 60 jobs for the County.
- They will be helping the poultry farmers find a solution for their chicken ash. Current stockpile, difficult to land apply, state regulations more stringent, transport expensive.
- Another benefit is that they will transport the waste and utilize to generate energy. Currently, the waste is transported in an uncovered truck and the waste is spread over land.

- Fibrowatt will be meeting with the poultry industry, state and federal representatives and the County Commissioners on February 24th at 3:00 p.m. in this room for a panel discussion.
- I will keep you up-to-date with any future developments with this.

Utility Committee Report

- We had our first Utility Committee meeting on January 26th.
- It was a lot to consume for those citizens who first joined us but it was just an update or introduction to some of the issues that we are dealing with.
- Tim and Jason are compiling supporting information for the members who are not knowledgeable about the issues and developing more in-depth discussions at our next meeting.

Recreation Committee

- I just wanted to update the Commissioners on an action taken by the Infrastructure Committee for the 21st Century Communities.
- The overwhelming consent was that we establish a recreation committee to make recommendations to the County Commissioners to consider.
- We will be meeting on Thursday at 3:00 p.m.
- They will be providing some recommendations to the Commissioners to consider for this coming budget year.

Lake Tillery Advisory Committee Report

- We have had one meeting.
- As instructed by the Commissioners, I sent V.K. Development a laundry list of items that they consider during there project.
- They have responded back and the Advisory Committee will be meeting on February 17th to discuss there response.
- The Advisory Committee will also meet with V.K. Development on February 22nd.
- Commissioners Corbett and Maness serve on this committee.

Budget Calendar

- It is that time of the year and we have already started working on the budget.
- The department heads are filling them out and we are evaluating revenues.
- I will be requesting that the department heads provide me with a breakdown of there services those that are required, those that are necessary and those that are expendable. This should help in decision-making during the budget process.
- You have a calendar that generally layout a timeline for the budget process. Remember, these are just tentative dates and we will confirm all meeting dates with the Commissioners.

Chamber Business of the Year

- The Chamber Business of the Year will be on February 28th at 5:30 p.m. at the James Garner Center.
- Please mark your calendars.
- They have a table for us upfront.

Items Carried Forward from the Work Session

There were no items that were carried forward from the work session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Maness adjourned the meeting.

William D. Maness, Chairman

Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board