

**Work Session
August 1, 2006**

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners met in a work session on Tuesday, August 1, 2006 in the Commissioners Conference Room. A full board was present. Chairman Maness called the meeting to order and the following was heard:

Discussion on Senior Lunch Program

Chairman Maness turned the meeting over to the County Manager.

Chairman Maness said today we will be discussing a very important issue that we have all talked about and that has been brought up for many years during budget work sessions. Mr. Maness said I can remember Commissioner Bostic talking to us about his mother going to the Community Center and all the activities like flying kites. He said it is more than a meal it is fellowship as well. Chairman Maness turned the meeting over to the County Manager.

County Manager Lance Metzler introduced Blair Barton Percival from the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments who was present to discuss starting another Senior Lunch Program in the County. The Board requested this during a budget work session.

Mr. Percival thanked the Board for inviting him to speak and also for taking an interest in the issue. He said the County currently has two meal sites, Troy-Montgomery County Senior Center and Highland Community Center.

Mr. Percival presented the following that is required to start up new sites for Seniors:

Purpose

- Nutrition Services are intended to promote, maintain and improve the health and well-being of older adults through the provision of a nutritionally balanced meal.
- Reduce isolation through opportunities for social interaction.
- Provide nutrition education and supportive services in order to enhance an older adults ability to remain independent.

Requirements

- Provide one appropriate meal per day, in which a range of social and supportive services are available.
- The meals must comply with dietary guidelines of America (1/3 RDA per meal)
 - Menus must be certified by dietician
 - An annual satisfaction survey and solicitation for menu ideas must be complete

Eligibility

People 60+ and their spouses (as well as, disabled individuals that accompany eligible people to the site)

Choosing a Site

- Identify the need, want, and interest of the community to be served with the site.
- Demographics of community
- Environmental Scan to identify existing resources in area
 - Would the facility serve an unserved or underserved part of the County?
- Facility
 - Access
 - Transportation
 - Facility (12-24 sq. ft. per person, handicapped accessible, etc)
 - Hours of Operation
 - The building must comply to all Fire Codes, Building Codes, & Sanitation Codes of state and local governments

Cost

- Meal
 - Current Batement Schedule
 - 48-52 meals - \$5.43
 - 53-57 meals - \$5.05
 - 58-62 meals - \$4.73
 - 63-67 meals - \$4.46
 - 68-72 meals - \$4.23
 - 73-77 meals - \$4.04
 - 78-82 meals - \$3.87
 - 83-87 meals - \$3.72
 - 88 or more meals - \$3.58

- Site Manager
 - 4 hours per day (not to be paid for more than 4 hours)
 - Nutrition staff must recruit, orient and train volunteers to assist with meal service and programming.

- Facility
 - Furniture (Tables, Chairs, etc.)
 - Utilities
 - Phone

- Administrative
 - Office supplies
 - Record Keeping (MIS Charges)
 - Training (Food Safety & others as needed)
 - Travel
 - Restaurant Type Supplies (gloves, hairnets, paper towels, disinfectant, etc.)

Potential Funding Opportunities

- NISP (Nutrition Service Incentive Program) formerly USDA – any meal satisfying the requirements of OAA (regardless of funding) is eligible
- Consumer Contributions
- Donations from Churches, Businesses, Individuals, Grants

Poverty of Older Adults

	Persons age 65+ in Poverty	Poverty rate of those Age 65+
North Carolina	122,248	13.20%
Alamance County	2,249	12.90%
Caswell County	649	21.10%
Davidson County	2167	12.10%
Guilford County	4663	9.90%
Montgomery County	644	17.80%
Randolph County	1747	11.50%
Rockingham County	2030	15.50%
Region G	14,149	12.10%

**Household Income Less Than \$25,000
Age of Householder, 65 or older**

	HH Income less than \$25,000	% with incomes of less than \$25,000 per year
North Carolina	322,392	51.60%
Alamance County	6,031	51.30%
Caswell County	1418	66.00%
Davidson County	6702	57.00%
Guilford County	14110	44.60%
Montgomery County	1499	60.60%
Randolph County	5651	56.30%
Rockingham County	5354	59.40%
Region G	40,765	51.70%

The Board discussed the problems that the Troy site is having with not having enough participants with Mr. Percival. Mr. Percival said in the next while, there is going to be a promotion to try to raise the participation at the site.

Chairman Maness said what we have is six or more Community Buildings throughout the County and it would be nice to have a site where Seniors could go not only for the meal, but for the fellowship with others, like Commissioner Bostic's mother did. We have nice Community Buildings.

Commissioner Bostic said since these things have come about, I have talked with some ministers to see if we could use church vans to help transport the seniors to the facilities. If we could get enough churches in communities to cooperate then the seniors could meet at the churches and be transported that way. It would be a good ministry for the church. I could get the sites, and the churches that would allow use of the vans, then maybe the drivers would be over 60 and could also participate.

Commissioner Corbett said we tried in Biscoe, but got very little participation.

Reporter Linda Beaulieu said it needs to be publicized that this is not welfare. Everyone agreed.

Chairman Maness said we need to address this, I am not sure what the first step would be. Commissioner Bostic suggested that the Board visit each community and have a town meeting and invite ministers. Chairman Maness agreed.

Commissioner Corbett talked about the program they have at Belford Baptist Church.

Commissioner Bostic said the right director will make all the difference. When my mother went to the Community Center, one of the richest ladies in Richmond County attended for the comradary and fellowship.

Commissioner Knight said he had to brag on the meal site at Highland. He said he was proud of how it came together He said people are so giving and Mary Pemberton is doing a great job running the program.


Mr. Percival said the meal turns out to be a small portion of what actually takes place at these centers.

Chairman Maness asked Mr. Metzler to keep the Board in touch with this issue.


Funding Options for DSS Building

This item will be placed on the August 15, 2006 meeting.

Chairman Maness recessed the meeting until the regular session at 6:00 p.m.


William D. Maness, Chairman




Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board

**Montgomery County Commissioner's Meeting
August 1, 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, August 1, 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

Commissioner Bostic gave the invocation.

Consent Agenda

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Morris, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of the Minutes – June 26 and July 18 minutes
- Approval of Vision 100 Grant Agreements, Resolution, and authorization for the
- County Manager to sign agreements.

Lake Tillery Fire Tax District Board Appointment

The Board agreed to postpone this appointment until the August 15th meeting.

Badin Lake Fire Tax District Board Appointment

In a motion made by Chairman Maness, seconded by Commissioner Corbett and so the motion carried unanimously to appoint Teresa Reynolds and Donald Berrier to serve on the Badin Lake Fire Tax District Board.

Public Forum

Mr. Ron Carpenter was present representing 2G5 Bridging the Gap. He was requesting to be a part of the next agenda in reference to a program they would like to have that would work with the School Board. He said the group has tried to work with Troy Housing but there is no room. He said we have found there are a lot of programs the Housing Authority should be doing. He said a lot of our children are part of the gap in test scores. He said some of the schools issues are the lack of parental involvement. He said I have pulled the minutes to read the agreement between the County and the Housing Authority.

Commissioner Knight said I asked Laura to pull the minutes for me and I am sure it is the same ones you have. I talked with the Director of the Housing Authority and received an attitude. He said they are not using the property as they said they would. The minutes should be a binding agreement.

County Manager Lance Metzler said I evaluated the minutes and the programs should have been evaluated after 10 years, which would have been 2005.

Chairman Maness asked that this be put on the August 15 work session.

Mrs. Alice Lammonds, CPS Supervisor with Montgomery County DSS was present. She said she wanted to show support for Commissioner Bostic proposal for the \$171,000 that the County would get back in Medicaid Access Reimbursement Funds. She said obviously I am biased because I am a DSS worker. She said we need a Deputy Sheriff at our department for safety reasons as well as to assist with the interviews with the children (forensic interview). She said I would also like to support Mr. Bostic's other proposals to give the school system more money and the Montgomery Fellows fund more.

Commissioner Bostic asked how many vacancies do you have now? Mrs. Lammonds said she didn't have all of the facts about that and she wasn't sure.

Commissioner Knight asked why there were vacancies. Mrs. Lammonds said we have a problem filling the vacancies. We had a worker from CPS to Adult Services. She also said new employees take a lot of training.

Commissioner Knight said I know the DSS Director is not here tonight, but I had hoped that someone would have been here and could have addressed these questions.

Mrs. Lammonds said I am only familiar with my section; you would have to talk with Mr. Sanders about any others.

Mr. Jim Harris, DSS Board Chair was present. He said as of July 18 there were three vacant positions caused by normal turnover. He said the vacancies haven't been for a long period of time. He said we want to get good quality people. He said we have been successful in that because we have good workers in DSS.

Chairman Maness said the decision on this would be later on in the meeting.

Planning and Zoning Report

Mr. Phil Henley presented the following Planning and Zoning Report:

Hans R. & Mary R. Scheening – Zoning Variance Request

Mr. Henley said Mrs. Scheening of 115 Trails End in New London located in Badin Shores Resort is requesting a variance to enclose her deck underneath with 100% screening. She already has screen on the upper deck. She requested permission from the Badin Shores Resort Association and they agreed to 100% screening on the lower deck due to a medical condition (anaphylaxis).

The Planning Board heard her request and there was some discussion. The Planning Board approved the 100% screen and also said they would allow her to frame up for windows, but screen it. Mr. Henley said I don't agree with it, but the Planning Board recommended it, but our ordinance does not permit windows. Badin Shores Resort Association said they would not allow windows either.

Chairman Maness said our Planning Board has allowed windows. Mr. Henley said no they are allowing her to frame it, in case it changes, and they are allowed to have a window.

I am getting a lot of comments saying all you have to do is pay \$150 and you can get whatever you want.

Commissioner Knight said the frame is just behind the screen. Mr. Henley said yes. Chairman Maness asked if there are any other screens. Have we done this before? Mr. Henley said none I am aware of. Mr. Maness said this is under a variance for a hardship. Mr. Henley said yes sir, due to her mother's medical condition. Mr. Maness said this would be a time limit as we discussed in our last meeting that is basically what a hardship is. If it is a hardship, there is a time limit to it.

Mrs. Scheening was present. She said she has been a Montgomery County homeowner for 12 years and a resident of North Carolina for 21 years. She said I would like to take exception to what Mr. Henley said about as a taxpayer I feel I should be able to pay \$150 and do what I want. She said this is the first time I have ever applied for anything like this. I am not one of those people.

She explained that she quit a full time job to take care of her parents and she isn't asking anyone (i.e. the State) to help. Mrs. Scheening said I have tried to do everything as honestly as possible and I am not trying to go around the system.

Chairman Maness said this was a variance request, not a hardship. Mr. Henley said that is correct. Mrs. Scheening said this is not an idle request. She said I appreciate the Planning Board and the County for being so helpful. Chairman Maness said isn't the hardship case due to health. Mr. Henley said yes. Commissioner Morris said once the hardship is up, it has to be taken down.

Chairman Maness made a motion to approve the hardship with a time limit with the screen only, no windows. Commissioner Corbett seconded the motion.

Commissioner Knight said I have no problem with the screen, I don't see the purpose for the windows. There will only be screen. He asked Mrs. Scheening if she understood that she would have to tear the screen down once the hardship was gone. He said my parents had hardships, my parents died, yours will too, and when they do you will no longer need the screen. I want you to understand that. Mrs. Scheening said they are in good health. Commissioner Knight said when the hardship is over; there is no need for it.

Commissioner Corbett withdrew his motion.

Mrs. Scheening said I was honest with the Planning Board, I told them I was going to continue with the project.

Commissioner Knight seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1 (Commissioner Corbett voted no).

Mrs. Scheening said just the screen will not work; I have already invested money for the project. Chairman Maness said you have been granted the screen due to your hardship, if you want anything different, you will have to go back before the Planning Board. Mrs. Scheening said I have already been through all of that. Chairman Maness informed Mrs. Scheening the Board was going on to the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Henley said the gentleman that was approved at the last meeting sign letters stating he would tear down whatever he should if he sold the lot or if the hardship with this wife ceased.

The Board also discussed other hardships that were granted.

County Finance Office Report

Lance Metzler, County Manager presented the following report:

Budget Amendment 01/07 Caregivers Grant Funds

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Knight, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the Budget Amendment 01/07 in the amount of \$13,736.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Lance Metzler presented the following report:

Piedmont Triad Partnership

- The Piedmont Triad Partnership is restructuring. They are reducing the number of members due to a directive from the NC Auditor in relations to non-profits.
- They will be rotating membership for counties.
- The first year will be Montgomery, Randolph and Rockingham.

- If no Commissioner wants to serve, then I certainly would be willing to serve on the Piedmont Triad Partnership.

Commissioner Corbett said that he didn't think the County should be involved with this group. He said the County should see about joining another organization in a different region. Mr. Corbett said they never mention Montgomery County in these meetings. Commissioner Knight asked if the County could change regions. Mr. Corbett said we can talk with Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin and let her know we would like to join the Southern region. Mr. Corbett said if we do join the Southern Region, then I would make a motion to appoint the County Manager to that board.

Amend Vehicle Policy

- I simply want to modify the Vehicle Policy to emphasize the appropriate use of seat belts while operating County owned vehicles.
- I wanted to emphasize this for possibly enhancing the County with insurance protection.

In a motion made by Commissioner Corbett, seconded by Commissioner Bostic, and so the motion carried unanimously to amend the vehicle policy to state the following:

"Drivers shall observe all local and state ordinances pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles (*including the use of seat belts while operating County owned vehicles*). Any fines imposed for any violation which was under the control of the driver shall be the responsibility of the driver."

Medicaid Excess

- I wanted to provide a follow up in reference to Commissioner Bostic's suggestion on how to utilize Medicaid excess (\$171,000).
- I originally thought it would be great to have additional funds to provide funding for the need in DSS and other departments.
- However, I contacted ten surrounding counties and the majority of them said that they were most definitely dropping that money back in to the general fund to utilize where it will be needed in future years.
- The big reason is that the Legislative appropriation may run out before the end of the year and Counties may wind up spending more than the 05-06 capped levels.

Commissioner Knight made a motion to allocated \$100,000 to DSS, \$25,000 for the Montgomery Fellows Scholarship Program, \$60,000 to be held for the schools after we meet with the superintendent to see if they can put the funds to good use.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Knight said point of order Mr. Chairman, you should second for the sake of discussion. Chairman Maness seconded the motion and called for any discussion.

Commissioner Corbett said we will not be getting the money until October. Mr. Knight said our manager just explained the money is there. Chairman Maness said the State just capped it.

The motion failed 1-3. (Voting for Commissioner Knight; Voting against Chairman Maness, Commissioner Morris, and Commissioner Corbett; Commissioner Bostic abstained because he had a counter motion).

Commissioner Bostic made a motion to buy a van for DSS and approve one new position (after all positions are filled); then the County Manager and DSS Director can sit down and see the needs. He said with any proposal you have to try, he said he would like to add \$20,000 to the \$19,500 budgeted for the Montgomery Fellowship Scholarship. He said hopefully this will be enough to endow itself. Mr. Bostic said one lady who received the scholarship will begin teaching at Candor Elementary. She has a high rating and will be a good teacher for our County. He said I would also like to allocate \$100,000 to the school system, but I strongly suggest the County Manager, our Finance Director, and our Chairman meet with the School Superintendent, their Finance Director and their Chairman and see what is needed.

Commissioner Corbett seconded the motion.

Commissioner Knight said now we will do whatever we can for the Montgomery Fellowship Program. He said he was in a meeting where they talked about a growing population that need food stamps and not enough workers to process the paperwork. People are hungry. These people are coming to our County. We give schools more money than most other Counties give their schools that is why I said only \$60,000. DSS needs a van and police protection. He said people don't want to give up their children. He said they need a food stamp clerk. He said crime is rising, he said they are picking up more children. He said our children are important. Mr. Knight said these ladies that work at DSS should not have to go by themselves to these houses. They don't have enough people to help. He said we have had a vacant position in the Health Department for two years. He said I thought you needed to know these things before you vote.

Chairman Maness said I have talked with some of the DSS employees and they have enlightened me on some issues. He asked the County Manager to go through these issues with the DSS Director, write the issue up and send it to the Commissioner.

The motion carried 4-1 (Commissioner Knight voted against the motion).

STAG Award Reception Reminder

- The Board as been invited to attend a STAG Award Reception at our County Water Plant.
- Congressman Hayes is securing \$500,000 through EPA for our clearwell project.
- As you all remember the bids came in way too high and we were not able to do the project. Now we will.
- The clearwell will give us additional capacity in case of emergencies and will allow us to provide regularly scheduled maintenance on both clearwells.

Moratorium Committee

- Commissioner Corbett showed interest on serving on the Moratorium Committee after the last meeting.
- Recommend placing Commissioner Corbett on the Moratorium Committee.
- We will be meeting on August 14th with the COG staff members to discuss my proposed restrictions.

In a motion made by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Bostic, and so the motion carried unanimously to appoint Commissioner Corbett to serve on the moratorium committee.

Upcoming Meetings

- I have provided you with a list of upcoming meeting in your packet. We will need to look at changing the November 7 meeting, which is Election Day.

Items Carried Forward from the Work Session

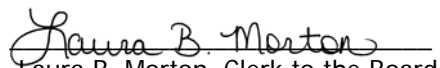
There were no items to carry forward.

Adjournment

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


William D. Maness, Chairman




Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the Board