

M I N U T E S
LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
January 27, 2014

Due to a conflict with an Economic Development event on Tuesday evening, Lexington County Council held its meeting on Monday, January 27, 2014 in Council Chambers beginning at 4:30 p.m. Chairman Jeffcoat presided.

Councilman Kinard provided the invocation. Ms. Vicki Renee Adams, SC Army National Guard and Reserves Retired, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Attending:	William B. Banning, Sr.	James E. Kinard, Jr.
	Frank J. Townsend, III	Debra B. Summers
	Bobby C. Keisler	Johnny W. Jeffcoat
	Kenneth Brad Matthews	M. Todd Cullum

Not Present: * M. Kent Collins

*Mr. Collins was out due to illness.

Also attending: Joe Mergo, III, County Administrator; Chris Folsom, Deputy County Administrator; Randy Poston, Chief Financial Officer; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Jeffcoat reported Council held their annual Council Strategic Workshop January 19th and 20th. Also, Council held a Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting to review, prioritize, and approve a list of projects that the County will submit to the Penny for Progress Commission for consideration. The Committee approved 25 projects to be considered.

Presentation of Resolutions - Former Mayor Charles Haggard, Town of Pelion; Former Mayor Randy Halfacre, Town of Lexington; Former Mayor Stan Shealy, Town of Chapin; Former Mayor Pat Smith, Town of Springdale; and Former Mayor James Wizowaty, Town of Batesburg/Leesville - Resolutions were presented to the above former mayors by their respective councilmember recognizing them for their service and leadership.

Presentation of EMS Resolution Presented by Chairman Jeffcoat - Chairman Jeffcoat presented a resolution to Lexington County Emergency Services, both past and present, for a job well done and having the courage and devotion to work toward a vision that was unheard of in the early years of Emergency Medical Services to help establish Lexington County as one of the premier Emergency Medical Services in the State of South Carolina.

Administrator's Report - Employee of the 4th Quarter - Mr. Mergo recognized Ashley Reluzco, Public Safety/EMS, and Joe Montgomery, Public Works as nominees for the Employee of the Fourth Quarter.

Mr. Mergo presented an Employee of the Quarter certificate and an engraved pen inscribed with "Leading by Example" to Mr. Montgomery. Ms. Reluzco was also presented a "Leading by Example" engraved pen.

Lexington County Employee and Wellness Center - Mr. Mergo introduced Dr. Brearley and Jakeema Smalls, Medical Assistant, who have been hired by Marathon-Health to run the County's new Employee and Wellness Center.

Skate-Your-Heart-Out - Mr. Mergo recognized Janice Telfair, Human Resources, and Jo Lynn Hinz, Central Stores, who helped organize the event to help raise money for the American Heart Association.

Harvest Hope Food Bank - Mr. Mergo recognized Jo Lynn Hinz, Central Stores, who was instrumental in collecting food from County employees for the Harvest Hope Food Bank. The value of the food donated in 2013 was \$67,560.92.

Penny for Progress - Mr. Mergo announced all of the Penny for Progress projects are due to the Commissioners by Thursday, January 30. However, due to the pending inclement weather, the date may be extended to Friday, January 31.

Winter Weather Alert - Mr. Mergo announced that Chief Justice has cancelled court in several of the counties due to the inclement weather. Also, the Public Works Department has already moved all the motorgraders to the interstate and the Emergency Operation Center is currently on OpCon4, which means it is being staffed by our Emergency Management staff, has been in constant contact with the National Weather Service. As part of the County's policy, a conference call will be held at 4 a.m. to gather as much information as possible in order to make the best decision before closing any County offices.

President's Day Golf Outing - Mr. Mergo announced the President's Day Golf outing will be Monday, February 17 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Charwood Country Club. The event, which is paid for by each participant, is open to all employees, spouses, friends, etc.

Brenda Furtick - Mr. Mergo reported he and Council attended the funeral for Ms. Furtick, the former Assistant to the County Administrator.

Community Development and CDBG - Mr. Mergo announced last week that Lexington County Community Development along with Richland County and the City of Columbia was awarded the 2014 Audrey Nelson Community Development Achievement Award in Washington, DC. The award recognizes exemplary uses of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Lexington, Richland, and the City of Columbia received the award for their support of the Transitions Homeless Facility.

Employee Recognition - Mr. Mergo recognized Joe Montgomery and Doug Padgett with Public Works. The Public Works Director received a letter from a citizen thanking Joe and Doug for meeting with them to assist with a drainage problem they were encountering and was most appreciative of their display of professionalism and concern during the meeting.

Mr. Mergo recognized Officers Alex Flenniken, Ryan Hoover, and Xavier Rodriguez with Animal Services for going beyond the call of duty while following up or investigating animal related issues.

Officer Flenniken, while patrolling in the South Region, observed a vehicle that had struck multiple pine trees leaving the driver unconscious with the vehicle still running. Officer Flenniken was able to climb through the back window to switch the vehicle off and unlock the driver's side to allow access for medical treatment.

Officer Hoover began an investigation concerning the ill treatment of animals located near a home in Swansea. Pursuant to his investigation, he found validity to the complaint and attempted contact with the owner of the animals. Although he was unsuccessful in locating the homeowner, he did observe certain characteristics about the home that he found extremely suspicious and possibly indicative of a criminal activity and notified the Lexington County Multi-County Narcotics Enforcement Team. This resulted in multiple arrests, seizure of a large quantity of cocaine over \$30,000, approximately \$25,000 in drug money, stolen guns, and other items.

Officer Rodriguez was dispatched by 911 for a routine call for service relating to the welfare of animals at a resident on Robbie Road where he observed a white female lying on, what appeared to be a medical bed in a living room just inside the residence grasping her chest and then collapsing. Officer Rodriguez quickly notified 911 and requested EMS. Before leaving, Officer Rodriguez ensured that every animal present had food and water before securing the resident's home and vehicle in her absence.

Chairman Jeffcoat expressed his appreciation to Nikki and her staff for the fine job they are doing.

Appointments - Boards & Commissions - Central Midlands Development Board - George H. "Smokey" Davis - Mr. Banning made a motion, seconded Mr. Kinard to appoint Mr. Smokey Davis. Mr. Davis replaces Mr. Art Guerry.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Banning
	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Bids/Purchases/RFPS - Mr. Cullum made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve the Interior Renovation of the Oak Grove Fire Station for Public Safety/Fire Service (Tab I).

Interior Renovation of Oak Grove Fire Station - Public Safety/Fire Service - Competitive bids were solicited for the interior renovation of the Oak Grove Fire Station. Four (4) bids were received. Staff recommended the award to Solid Structures. Total amount, including tax, is \$124,293.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Cullum
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Townsend	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Banning

Zoning Amendment - Zoning Map Amendment M13-03 - 3rd and Final Reading - Mr. Kinard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cullum to approve third and final reading.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Banning

Ordinance(s) - Ordinance 13-10 - Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 95-12 as Amended by Subsequent Ordinances Relating to the Joint County Industrial Park of Lexington and Calhoun Counties so as to Enlarge the Park (Devro, Inc) - 3rd and Final Reading - Mr. Banning made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve third and final reading.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Banning
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Townsend	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Committee Reports - Justice, J. Kinard, Jr., Chairman - DUI Equipment Grant Application (Goal 1) - Mr. Kinard reported the Committee met to consider a request from the Sheriff's Department to apply for the DUI Equipment Grant. The grant in the amount of \$225,200 does not require a County match. If awarded, the funds will be used to purchase digital video camera systems and radar units for DUI enforcement. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend to full Council for approval.

Mr. Kinard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Townsend to approve staff's request to submit the application.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Townsend	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Matthews
	Mr. Banning	Mr. Cullum

Public Works & Solid Waste Management, T. Cullum, Chairman - 2013 NPDES Annual Report (Goal 2) - Mr. Cullum reported the Committee was briefed by staff on our annual 2013 NPDES report, which is due February 3, 2014. The report reflected some updates and milestones that were achieved in 2013. Also, included in the report was the continuation of flow monitoring of watersheds, revisions of

the Land Development Manuel, County pond maintenance/compliance, and the 319 Grant for 12-Mile Creek. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend to full Council for approval to send to DHEC.

Mr. Cullum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kinard to approve sending the 2013 NPDES report to DHEC.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Cullum
	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	

Opposed: Mr. Banning

Michael Taylor Road Closing (Goal 2) - Mr. Cullum reported the Public Works/Solid Waste Management Committee convened on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 to review the request from CMC Americas Engineering to close Michael Taylor Road. Following is the Committee Report:

Mr. Wrenn Barrett, Public Works Director, presented a request from CMC Americas Engineering (CMC) to close Michael Taylor Road, a dirt road, located between Neely Wingard Road (S-32-774) and Nathan Miller Road. CMC is the petitioner and sole owner of the abutting properties along both sides and down the entire length of Michael Taylor Road and has agreed to pay all closing costs. Mr. Scott Henderson and Mr. Robert Sharpe, representatives with CMC, were present to answer questions regarding the closing. Mr. Henderson provided background information on the properties owned by CMC and reported the road closing would allow them to consolidate the properties for future development. Staff reported the closure would result in a decrease of approximately 0.5 miles of dirt road maintenance for the County.

Since the Committee meeting, Public Works has consulted with Public Safety on the closure of Michael Taylor Road and both have no objections to the road closing.

The Public Works/Solid Waste Management Committee voted in favor to recommend to full Council, based on the information presented, the Committee has no objections to the closing of Michael Taylor Road.

Mr. Cullum made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers that we (Council) take no opposition to the road closing.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Cullum
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Matthews
	Mr. Banning	

Abstained: Mr. Townsend*

*Mr. Townsend abstained as CMC Steel Company of South Carolina is one of his business clients (Abstention form attached).

Chairman Jeffcoat asked to reconvene the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Penny for Progress Projects.

Chairman Jeffcoat reconvened the County Council meeting.

Penny for Progress Project West Region Headquarters - Sheriff/EMS/Fuel Station and Batesburg-Leesville Magistrate Office - Chairman Jeffcoat asked Chief Kirchner to address Council on the West Region Headquarters.

Chief Kirchner said there is a slight increase if you add the two plans together (Batesburg-Leesville Magistrate Building and the Sheriff's Department West Region Headquarters). But with them being in such a hurry to find a location and put it on paper with the architect in preparation for today, there might be a small increase in the overall cost if you add the two projects together as we had those laid out. The total cost he believes is \$3.4 - \$3.3 million. It is actually at a very good location. We have come to a great compromise here at the last minute. It is at West Hampton Road and Hwy. 1 and the address for the lot is 5502 Augusta Hwy. If you take West Hampton, it takes you right into Gilbert. If you take Hwy. 1 you are about three miles to the Batesburg City Limits and the other direction – it is very preferable for the Sheriff's Department, for the Magistrate's Office, for the fuel site, for EMS, and the Town of Batesburg. We have spoken with the Mayor and other folks in the area and everybody seems to be happy.

Chairman Jeffcoat replied everybody is on the same page.

Chief Kirchner responded, yes, sir.

Mr. Mergo said if it is okay with Council we can amend it. It was originally \$3,049,000. The amount in here is \$3,341,354.

Mr. Cullum made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers to amend Ranking Number 3 – Lexington County Sheriff's Department West Region Headquarters - to \$3,341,354.

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion.

For clarification, Mr. Banning said he thinks all of Council received a letter from the Mayor of Batesburg/Leesville insisting that the Magistrate's Office stay in the City Limits.

Chairman Jeffcoat replied, you are right, and I think she has had a change of heart.

Chief Kirchner said Judge Reinhart was really the one who had the communication with Mayor Clamp and the other folks. He went ahead and made some phone calls and talked to the mayor and as explained it to me that she was very happy with the location that we had come up with. And all the other folks they have spoken to in Batesburg/Leesville are as well.

For clarification, Mr. Cullum said you are talking about the Batesburg/Leesville mayor, Rita Crapps. (Chief Kirchner had mistakenly said Mayor Clamp), yes, you are correct.

Mr. Banning asked Mr. Townsend if she (Mayor Crapps) is good with the location.

Mr. Townsend replied, yes. Jim (referring to Jim Wizowaty) called me and he talked with her.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for further discussion; none occurred.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor: Mr. Jeffcoat Mr. Cullum
 Ms. Summers Mr. Kinard
 Mr. Townsend Mr. Matthews
 Mr. Banning

Not Present: Mr. Keisler *

*Councilmember Keisler left when Council went back into the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Penny for Progress projects.

Priority of Penny for Progress Projects Submitted by County Departments - Committee Recommendation - Mr. Matthews made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve the Committee's recommendation as we discussed - Projects 1-25. The total of the 25 projects is \$319,139,937. (See attached revised list)

Chairman Jeffcoat opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Banning said all Council is doing is recommending the list of Projects 1-25 to the Penny for Progress Commission for them to make a decision of which, if any of these projects, will be on the upcoming ballot. All we are doing, the same thing as any municipality or Rec. Commission is doing, is providing a list of our preferred projects.

Chairman Jeffcoat called for the vote.

In Favor: Mr. Jeffcoat Mr. Matthews
 Ms. Summers Mr. Kinard
 Mr. Townsend Mr. Banning
 Mr. Cullum

Not Present: Mr. Keisler

Mr. Banning said all of these projects will not be done, probably in our lifetime, if they are not done through some special funding purpose like we are looking at. All our citizens need to know that we are trying to take care of our dirt roads; issues in this county that need to be taken care of that we don't have the power or ability to raise taxes to do.

Chairman Jeffcoat said there is no money on the federal, state, or local level to take care of these projects and we don't have the funding and probably no way to get the funding to get these projects done. If it is not the Penny for Progress, it is not going to happen. To be able to put a third of all the dirt roads that have been petitioned to be paved on this list and have it approved, would be a really great thing for

Lexington County and its citizens. I am excited if it passes. If it doesn't, the people have spoken, and we will live with that.

Budget Amendment Resolutions - The following BARs were distributed and signed:

14-084 - A supplemental appropriation (existing funds) increase of \$37,000. To budget revenue received from the City of Columbia for fire hydrant fees collected on the city's water bills for residents of Lexington County.

14-095 - A supplemental appropriation (existing funds) increase of \$334. Amick Ferry and Crossroads Fire Stations closed their 1% Fund accounts and donated the funds to Fire Service to purchase fire prevention supplies.

14-096 - An appropriation transfer of \$27,357 from Fire Service Contingency to cover the cost of a new breathing air compressor.

14-097 - An appropriation transfer of \$182,365 to upgrade the automation systems that control all the HVAC systems in the following buildings: Lexington County Jail, Administration Building, Judicial Center, Auxiliary Administration Building, Lexington Main Library, Irmo Library, and the Cayce-West Columbia, Library.

Old Business/New Business - None.

Winter Weather Alert - Mr. Mergo said Chief Justice has issued an order ordering all courts to be closed Tuesday and Wednesday. This will impact the Courthouse and all the Magistrates Offices.

Motion to Adjourn - Mr. Matthews made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kinard to adjourn.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Matthews
	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Banning
	Mr. Cullum	

Not Present: Mr. Keisler

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

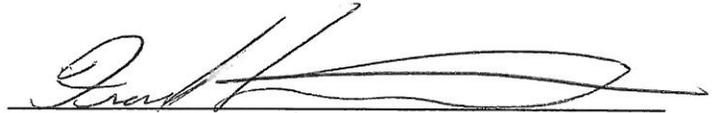
Diana W. Burnett
Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat
Chairman

ABSTENTION FROM VOTING AND DELIBERATING

I am hereby asking the Chairman to excuse me from voting and deliberating on the matter of **the January 27, 2014 Council Meeting - Public Works Committee - Michael Taylor Road Closing** because of a potential conflict of interest because of the following: **CMC Steel Company of South Carolina is one of my business clients**

I am furnishing this statement to the Chairman and I request that this statement be printed in the Minutes of this meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Frank H.", written over a horizontal line.

Date: Jan. 27, 2014

County Council Rank	Department Submittal	Project Description	Estimated Cost
1	Economic Development	Airport Connector Project	\$74,039,178
2	Economic Development	Exit 119 Road Project / 12th Street Extension Project	\$43,175,000
3	Sheriff / EMS / Fuel Station/ & Batesburg-Leesville Magistrate	Lexington County Sheriff's Department West Region Headquarters	\$3,341,354
4	Public Works	Dirt Road Paving Project (~30% of County Petitioned Dirt Roads)	\$70,000,000
5	Economic Development	Longs Pond Road Corridor Improvements Project	\$42,400,000
6	Public Works	Asphalt Resurfacing Project (21.84 miles or 4% of County Maintained Paved Roads)	\$6,036,147
7	Sheriff / Public Safety/ Fuel Station	Lexington County East Region Service Center	\$4,164,773
8	Fire Service	Lexington County Fire Service Station 1 / Headquarters	\$2,765,483
9	Library	Addition--Lexington Main Library Branch, Cayce-West Columbia Library Branch & Irmo Library Branch	\$13,786,000
10	Public Works	SCDOT Intersection Improvements a. Perry Taylor Rd. @ Two Notch Rd. - \$400,000 b. Andrew Corley Rd. @ Corley Mill Rd. - \$800,000 c. Baskin Hills Rd. @ Mineral Springs Rd. - \$600,000 d. Bethany Church Rd. @ SC 6 - \$750,000 e. Crystal Springs Rd. @ Edmund Hwy. - \$400,000 f. Dooley Rd. @ Mineral Springs Rd. - \$600,000 g. Kitty Wake Dr. @ Emanuel Church Rd. - \$700,000 h. Leaphart Rd. @ Mineral Springs Rd. - \$400,000 i. Murray Lindler Rd. @ US 76 - \$400,000 j. Nursery Rd. @ Nursery Hill Rd. - \$400,000 k. Oak Dr. @ Mineral Springs Rd. - \$600,000 l. Shirway Rd. @ Two Notch Rd. - \$600,000 m. Sid Bickley Rd. @ Two Notch Rd. - \$500,000 n. US 378 @ I-20 - \$350,000 o. White Knoll Way @ Old Barnwell Rd. - \$400,000	\$7,900,000
11	Public Works	Right Turn Lane Projects a. US-378 & Hope Ferry Rd. - \$500,000 b. US-1 & Gibson Rd. - \$500,000 c. US-378 & Mineral Springs Rd. - \$500,000 d. US-378 & Whiteford Way - \$500,000	\$2,000,000

12	Sheriff / Public Safety	Public Safety Regional Training Facility (Ball Park Rd.)	\$2,835,568
13	Solid Waste Management	Edmund Highway (SC Highway 302) and Landfill Lane Intersection Improvements Project	\$765,000
14	Public Works	Storm Drainage Infrastructure Improvement Project (total of 1.6 miles in various locations)	\$1,096,639
15	Public Works	Various Sidewalk Projects a. Whiteford Way Sidewalk - \$854,562.23 b. Emory Lane Sidewalk - \$1,137,029.98 c. Nursery Road Sidewalk - \$756,087.55	\$2,747,680
16	Solid Waste Management	Relocation and Construction of the River Chase Collection & Recycling Center	\$2,870,000
17	Solid Waste Management	Expansion of the County Solid Waste Transfer Station at the Edmund Landfill	\$1,800,000
18	Solid Waste Management	Construction of a North Lexington County Solid Waste Transfer Station	\$2,570,000
19	Solid Waste Management	Construction of a New Solid Waste Administration Building	\$1,385,000
20	Magistrate Court	New Building for Cayce – West Columbia Magistrate	\$650,000
21	Library	Additions to Libraries a. South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library Branch - \$2,192,000 b. Pelion Library Branch – \$1,920,000 c. Batesburg-Leesville Library Branch - \$2,144,000 d. Gaston Library Branch - \$1,790,000 e. Gilbert-Summit Library Branch - \$1,158,000 f. Swansea Library Branch - \$979,000 g. Chapin Library Branch - \$2,205,000	\$12,388,000
22	Public Works	Black Avenue Drainage Improvements	\$1,008,530
23	Public Works	Goldstone Drive Bridge Replacement	\$1,550,000
24	Public Works	Various Intersection Improvements a. Rawl Rd. Intersection Improvements - \$540,585 b. Ginny Lane / Woodside Road Connector - \$2,500,000 c. Roundabout Concept Old Cherokee Road and St. Peters Road Intersection - \$1,080,000 d. Roundabout Concept for Old Cherokee Road and Catawba Trail Intersection - \$1,790,000 e. Old Cherokee Road and Old Chapin Road Intersection - \$1,845,000 f. Roundabout Concept for US-378 and SC-6 Intersection - \$2,110,000	\$9,865,585
25	Public Works	Kinnely Creek Improvements	\$8,000,000
TOTAL			\$319,139,937