

Special Meeting Minutes

Board of County Commissioners Hyde County March 30, 2011

Chairman Sharon Spencer called the Special Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, March 30, 2011 in the Hyde County Government Center, Multi-Use Room and the Ocracoke School Commons Area using electronic conferencing equipment. The following members were present on the mainland: Commissioners Anson Byrd, Sharon Spencer, Barry Swindell and Dick Tunnell; County Manager, Mazie Smith; Deputy Clerk to the Board Shelley Carawan; County Attorney Fred Holscher; and members of the public. The following members were present on Ocracoke: Commissioners Darlene Styron; Deputy Clerk, Jamie Tunnell and members of the public.

Following the opening prayer given by Commissioner Byrd and the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order.

Consideration of the Agenda:

Chairman Spencer asked for any changes to the March 30, 2011 meeting agenda as presented by the Clerk.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Tunnell seconded the motion.

Ayes: Byrd, Spencer, Styron, Swindell, Tunnell

Nays: None

Special Presentation-Hyde County Board of Education

Dr. Latimore began by thanking the Board for allowing him the opportunity to speak. He said that the projects at Mattamuskeet school are well underway and hope the Ocracoke School projects will be underway.

Ben Cahoon, architect, stated that he worked on the classroom at Mattamuskeet and the Ocracoke gym project. Mr. Cahoon explained to the Board that the three million dollar budget had evaporated while trying to do things inclusive and it became a struggle.

He went on to say that the idea of a wood floor for the Ocracoke School gym floor was introduced in October 2010. To change the plans from a composite flooring to a wood flooring required a new plan and approach but the option of an elevated slab or pre-fill never arised.

Mr. Cahoon also said that Ocracoke felt most strongly with having the wood flooring on a concrete slab on back-fill because it was the most durable and sound. His opinion was that a composite flooring system would be the less expensive approach considering the budget constraints.

The current change order from composite flooring to wood flooring is \$137,000 as presented by the Board of Education.

The Commissioners continued to question the Ocracoke School Project. Commissioner Styron felt that the prices for the change order were tremendously inflated and she also felt that the architect and committee lacked communication.

Mr. Cahoon explained that the costs included retractable bleachers, relocation of goals and upgrade items that were in place.

Commissioner Byrd asked what the lifespan of the composite flooring would be and it was answered by Mr. Cahoon that it was probably 15 years.

Davis Tolson, Ocracoke School Board, commented that Ocracoke wanted a wood floor and the best bid they had received was from Champion including floor vents. He also stated that the sand used from Ocracoke was superior to the sand on the mainland because it was much cleaner and would hold up better as back fill for the gym building.

The Commissioners were questioning why the figures they were given for were not accurate.

Bill Myer, M.B. Kahn Construction, and Bridge MacDowell, Waldt Construction were present for discussion. Mr. MacDowell explained that the figures the Board was presented were two day figures. They were the best figures he could come up with and hadn't had a chance to contact the organizations for official price quotes for concrete and so forth.

Mr. Garrett, Ocracoke Gym Committee, spoke about the current floor plan and the old floor that is in place. He said the new design only has one layer of plywood and the existing floor had three or four layers. He also mentioned that the price for concrete was listed as \$540 per yard and the free sand was listed as \$32-\$40 per yard. His main point was that he didn't want them to end up with what they had and wanted something better.

David Tolson, Ocracoke, said Ocracoke was striving for a wood floor.

After further discussion, Commissioner Swindell asked what the contingency was for this project.

Finance Officer for Hyde County Schools, James Agar, answered that it was 5% for the County and 4% for MB Kahn.

Chairman Spencer commented that she would have hoped architect, Mr. Cahoon would have chosen the best possible flooring and not have cut anything from the flooring budget because \$3 million to work with is a lot of money.

Mr. Agar explained that the school fund balance was around \$330,000 but he was very protective over it and didn't want to touch it.

Commissioner Swindell expressed his concern with raising taxes. He said that raising taxes would affect Ocracoke the most.

Dr. Latimore said that he understood the position of the Board in not wanting to raise taxes but the end result would be a well utilized building.

Commissioner Swindell said that he would be in favor of releasing half of a \$100,000 figure from lottery funds if the Board of Education was willing to contribute the other half out of their contingency.

Commissioner Byrd said that the figures presented weren't real numbers and he would not be voting until he was presented with accurate figures.

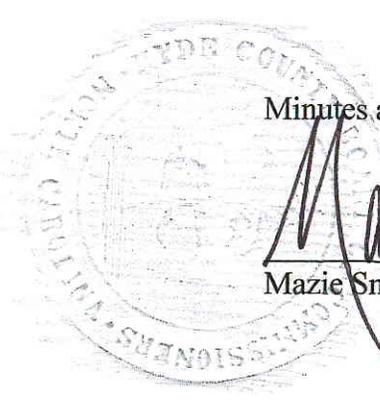
Commissioner Styron made a motion to table the decision to release lottery funds to the Board of Education for the Ocracoke School Project until the Board Meeting on Monday, April 4th, 2011. Mr. Swindell seconded the motion.

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to adjourn the March 30, 2011, Special Meeting of the Hyde County Commissioners. Commissioner Styron seconded the motion.

The March 30, 2011 Special Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes approved on the 18th day of April, 2011



Mazie Smith

Mazie Smith, Clerk

Sharon Spencer

Sharon Spencer, Chairman