

IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BRIEFING MINUTES
APRIL 16, 2002

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met in Briefing Session at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, April 16, 2002, in the South Wing Conference Room of the Iredell County Government Center, 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.

Present: Chairman Sara Haire Tice
Vice Chairman Karen B. Ray
Tommy E. Bowles
Steve D. Johnson
R. Godfrey Williams

Staff Present: County Manager Joel Mashburn, Finance Director Susan Blumenstein, Planning Supervisor Ron Smith, Recreation Director Robert Woody, County Assessor Brent Weisner, Emergency Management and Communications Director Larry Dickerson, Assistant Jail Supervisor Terry Beck, and Clerk to the Board Jean Moore.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN: Emergency Management & Communications Director Larry Dickerson updated the board on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Dickerson said the comprehensive plan would have input from many county departments and outside agencies. He said a committee needed to be established with one member being a county commissioner to help review the plan's contents and to insure that it met the minimum criteria. (Senate Bill 300 requires all local governments to have an approved plan by August 1, 2002 to be eligible for state public assistance funds.)

Commissioner Bowles volunteered to serve. Bowles requested that if possible, the committee meet in the evening hours.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL SOUTH IREDELL YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (SIYAA) CONTRACT: Recreation Director Robert Woody requested approval of the annual SIYAA contract. He said the agreement was for the 2002 baseball, softball, and tee ball season ending July 31, 2002. Woody said the SIYAA had "pulled out" of the recreation department's program about five years ago and had coordinated its own activities since that time.

Commissioner Williams asked the monetary value of the agreement.

Woody said the SIYAA had to submit all game documentation by July 31, 2002, to receive one-half of the reimbursements, up to \$3,000, based on the recreation department's criteria for umpire fees, the number of games, and the number of umpires at each game.

Commissioner Williams asked if the SIYAA would be gaining more benefits than the recreation department's regular participants due to the recent budget cuts.

County Manager Mashburn said the recreation department's budget cuts were not in the athletic programs -- they were in operations. He said the cuts were in grants and the money being transferred to the parks fund.

Woody said he would be meeting with the SIYAA representatives in the fall. He said there was a possibility the SIYAA might desire to return to the recreation department's "umbrella" of programs. Woody said, however, the Recreation Advisory Committee had recommended approval of the agreement for this season.

Commissioner Williams requested for the arrangement between the SIYAA and the recreation department to be reviewed during the coming year.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE STUMPY CREEK BOAT LANDING FEES (SET BOAT LAUNCH FEE OF \$2 AND SEASON PASSES FOR \$50): Recreation Department Director Robert Woody explained two requests pertaining to the boat landing at the Stumpy Creek Park. Woody said the honor system had worked well in the past, but he was requesting for the instructions on the boat landing's information board to read that the \$2 fee was required. In addition, Woody requested approval of season passes for the use of the boat landing. He suggested that \$50 be charged for a pass extending from January 1 through December 31 and \$25 be charged from July 1 through December 31. Mr. Woody said the passes would be in the form of a window decal.

Commissioner Ray asked how the staff monitored the boat landing.

Woody said a maintenance person checked the site on a regular basis.

REQUEST FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #39 (TRANSFER OF SEIZED FUNDS) FOR THE ARCVIEW SPATIAL ANALYST SOFTWARE: Assistant Jail Supervisor Terry Beck requested \$2,300 to purchase new software to be used by the crime statistician. He requested that a budget amendment be approved for the transfer of the \$2,300 from the seized funds account.

FY 2002-03 BUDGET DELIBERATION DATES: County Manager Mashburn said he would submit the FY 02-03 budget to the commissioners on May 7. He said a public hearing had been tentatively scheduled for June 4, 2002.

The board agreed to review the budget on:

Monday, May 13, 2002
Tuesday, May 14, 2002
Wednesday, May 15, 2002
Wednesday, May 22, 2002
Thursday, May 23, 2002

*Wednesday, June 5, 2002
* Tuesday, June 11, 2002
*Thursday, June 13, 2002

(*if needed)

(The meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m.)

UPDATE FROM COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS REGARDING THE FIRE TAX DISTRICT BOARD: Commissioner Williams said the members of the fire tax district board had been working on the volunteer fire departments' budgets for the upcoming year. He said the members of the fire tax board were concerned about not having a more equitable method to distribute the funding.

Finance Director Blumenstein said she felt a formula-based system would be an improvement over the current method.

Commissioner Johnson suggested a method where the departments were paid on the costs associated to operate the department and the number of calls.

Commissioner Williams asked who would determine the operational cost for each department. Mr. Williams said he had been trying to develop a funding formula based on (1) two cents on the tax base (2) a base allocation (flat rate for all departments) and (3) the number of emergency responses.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Tice adjourned the briefing session at 6:20 p.m.

Approved: _____

Clerk to the Board