

**IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR THE JOINT MEETING WITH THE
IREDELL-STATESVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
&
BRIEFING SESSION FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
APRIL 19, 2005**

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met with the Iredell-Statesville Board of Education on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at 5:00 p.m., in the Iredell County Government Center (South Wing Conference Room), 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.

Commissioners in Attendance were:

Chairman Sara Haire Tice
Vice Chairman Godfrey Williams
Steve D. Johnson
Marvin Norman
Ken Robertson

County staff present: County Manager Joel Mashburn, Finance Director Susan Blumenstein, and Clerk to the Board Jean Moore.

Board of Education Members in Attendance were:

David Cash, Chairman
Tara Cashion, Vice Chairman
Jim Head
Charles Kelly
David Parker
Keith Williams
Absent: Dr. Ken Wilson

School staff present were: Dr. Terry Holliday (Supt.), Dr. Steve Lane, (Deputy Supt.), and Dr. Kenny Miller (Director of Maintenance Services).

Others present included: Members of the Joint School Task Force, the media, and other interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tice called the board of commissioners to order.
Chairman Cash called the school board to order.

Distribution of a 20-Year and 25-Year General Obligation Bond Spreadsheet, a Proposed Calendar for a County-wide School Bond Referendum and a Certificates of Participation Calendar, along with a copy of a Resolution from the Iredell-Statesville Board of Education: Iredell County Finance Director Blumenstein discussed two charts showing the estimated tax increase for a 20 and 25-year bond. The information is as follows:

			20-Year General Obligation Bond Maximum Annual Debt Service FY 2006-07			
	GO Bond Amount	Interest Only	Principal	Interest	Total	Est. Tax Increase
Iredell-Statesville Schools	\$36,400,000	\$ 773,500	\$1,820,000	\$1,508,325	\$3,328,325	2.29
Mooresville	10,500,000	223,125	525,000	435,094	960,094	0.66
Mitchell College	3,000,000	63,750	150,000	124,313	274,313	0.19
		1,060,375	2,495,000	2,067,732	4,562,732	3.14

		25-Year General Obligation Bond Maximum Annual Debt Service FY 2006-07			
	Interest Only 6/13/2006	Principal	Interest	Total	Est. Tax Increase
*Iredell-Statesville	\$ 791,700	\$ 1,456,000	\$ 1,551,732	\$ 3,007,732	2.07
* Mooresville	228,375	420,000	447,615	867,615	0.60
*Mitchell College	65,250	120,000	127,890	247,890	0.17
	1,085,325	1,996,000	2,127,237	4,123,237	2.84

* same bond amount as 20-year

	<u>Tax per 1¢</u>
Tax Assessor's Estimate as of 04/04/05	\$1,357,250
	x 1.07
Est. 2006-07 Tax Per 1¢	\$1,452,258

Chairman Tice said she understood the college board had not officially met to determine Mitchell's bond request. She said, however, a letter had been sent from the college president outlining the 2005 capital building priority list.

Joe Troutman, a member of the school facilities task force and a college trustee, said a new student services building on the main campus was the first priority. He said the second priority was to expand the Mooresville site. Troutman said the board of trustees would meet on April 27 to discuss the proposed bond.

Mrs. Blumenstein said the bond amounts for the college and for the Mooresville schools were submitted by Dr. Holliday.

Dr. Holliday said it was his understanding the members of the Mooresville Board of Education would soon adopt a resolution outlining their school needs.

Dr. Cash then read the following resolution:

*Resolution of the
Iredell-Statesville Schools Board of Education*

The Iredell-Statesville Schools Board of Education hereby calls upon the Board of Commissioners of Iredell County to adopt an order authorizing general obligation bonds of the County and to call a referendum thereon for October 11, 2005, at which time such order will be submitted to the qualified voters of Iredell County. The question to be put to a vote shall be substantially as follows:

"Shall the order adopted on _____, 2005 authorizing not exceeding \$ _____ school bonds of the County of Iredell, North Carolina to finance renovations and additions to N.B. Mills/Monticello Elementary School, Sharon Elementary School, Troutman Elementary School, Troutman Middle School, Brawley Middle School, North Iredell Middle School, Statesville Middle School, West Iredell Middle School, Lake Norman High School, Statesville High School, North Iredell High School, and West Iredell High School and authorizing the levy of taxes in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on said bonds, be approved?"

Board of Education Member David Parker made a motion to adopt the resolution, as read by Dr. Cash, and Board of Education Vice Chairman Tara Cashion seconded the motion. (Motion passed unanimously.)

Commissioner Robertson asked why the General Obligation Bond was occurring before the Certificates of Participation (COPs).

Dr. Cash said it was due to timing.

Dr. Holliday said Mrs. Blumenstein had indicated that holding the bond in the fall of the year would work out better due to the annual budget preparation in the spring.

Blumenstein said another reason was due to COPs requirements. She said the COPs bids had to be "in hand" before any bonds could be sold. Mrs. Blumenstein said GO bonds were different.

Commissioner Robertson said Phase I would have a tax increase of three cents. He asked if there were any tax increase estimates for Phases II and III.

Blumenstein said there were no estimates at this time.

Dr. Holliday mentioned that lottery proceeds might be available in two years if the General Assembly passed the legislation. He said it was being proposed that any lottery revenue be distributed on a per pupil basis.

Commissioner Johnson suggested that the two boards adopt a resolution stipulating that state funds needed to be disbursed on an ADM basis. He said this type of distribution was especially needed in high growth areas.

Chairman Tice asked about the plans for Mount Mourne Elementary.

Dr. Holliday said a request would soon be made to purchase 71 acres in the Mount Mourne area. He said the money for the land acquisition would come from system's fund balance, and the construction of a new school on the site would be included in Phase II. Holliday said Mount Mourne would remain open, but there would be a new school further southeast to aid in the growth around the Lowes Corporate campus.

School Board Member Parker asked if each educational facility (Iredell-Statesville, Mooresville, and the college) would have a separate question on the October referendum.

County Manager Mashburn said it could be written up that way, or only one question could be presented.

Blumenstein said the laws governing bond funds were extremely specific, and it was important to list any schools needing improvements.

MOTION by Chairman Tice, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to suspend the commissioners' Rules of Procedure in order to make a motion regarding the commissioners' intent on the board of education's bond referendum resolution.

VOTING: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0.

MOTION by Chairman Tice to express the commissioners' intent to place a referendum before the public on October 11, 2005, in regards to school construction bonds.

VOTING: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0.

MOTION by Commissioner Johnson to ask the county staff and the school staff to jointly draft a resolution requesting that any proceeds received from a statewide bond for school construction be distributed on an ADM basis and for a copy of the document to be sent to the county's legislative delegation and to the Governor.

VOTING: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0.

MOTION by Board of Education Member Parker to act on the same motion -- joint resolution requesting that any proceeds received from a statewide bond for school construction be distributed on an ADM basis and for a copy of the document to be sent to the county's legislative delegation and to the Governor. (A second to the motion was given and the motion unanimously passed.)

At approximately 5:35 p.m., Chairman Tice and Chairman Cash adjourned the joint meeting.

**April 19, 2005
Agenda Briefing**

County staff joining the commissioners for this segment of the meeting were: Planning/Code Enforcement Director Lynn Niblock, Planning Supervisor Steve Warren, Chief Deputy Rick Dowdle, Health Director Donna Campbell, Allied Health Director Norma Rife, and Purchasing Agent Dean Lail.

The staff then briefly explained the agenda requests. Additional information regarding their comments may be found in the 7 p.m. minutes.

Announcement of the Resignation of Whitney Hodges: County Manager Mashburn advised that Planner Whitney Hodges had submitted her resignation effective April 27, 2005.

Request for a Determination Pertaining to the Board's Meeting Schedule for the Month of July 2005: County Manager Mashburn said the proposed bond referendum for the fall would necessitate board meetings in July, and for this reason, the schedule should not be altered. (This request will be deleted from the 7 p.m. agenda.)

Adjournment: Chairman Tice adjourned the briefing session at 6:30 p.m.

Approval: _____

Clerk to the Board