

**IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BRIEFING MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2002**

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met in Briefing Session on Tuesday, December 17, 2002, at 5:00 p.m., in the Iredell County Government Center (South Wing Conference Room), 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.

Present were:

Chairman Steve D. Johnson
Vice Chairman Godfrey Williams
Marvin Norman
Sara Haire Tice
(Vacancy due to Resignation of Karen B. Ray)

Staff present were: County Manager Joel Mashburn, Finance Director Susan Blumenstein, Fire Marshal Chuck Gallyon, Purchasing Agent Evie Caldwell, Solid Waste Director Ron Weatherman, Assistant Jail Administrator Terry Beck, Planning Supervisor Ron Smith, Health Director Ray Rabe, Support Services Director Jim Vernon, Purchasing Agent Evie Caldwell, and Clerk to the Board Jean Moore.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Johnson.

PRESENTATION BY DR. DOUGLAS EASON, PRESIDENT OF MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, REQUESTING INCLUSION IN THE NEXT CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION (COPS) ISSUANCE:

Accompanying Dr. Eason to the meeting were Dick Lefevre (Mitchell College Finance Officer) and Joe Troutman (Chairman of the Mitchell Board of Trustees). Eason said the college officials desired to be included in the next COPS issuance, and they wanted to use the money for the completion of the new Workforce Development Technology Building. He said the exact monetary amount for the request was unknown, but an estimate would be up to \$1,000,000. Eason said the college already had \$3.1 million from the 1998 State bond for the project.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW EMERGENCY MEDICAL DIRECTOR:

Emergency Management Director Tracy Jackson introduced Lee Darnell, the new Emergency Medical Services Director to the board members. Jackson said Darnell was born in Iredell County and raised in Yadkin County. (Mr. Darnell assumed his position with Iredell County on December 9, 2002.)

PRESENTATION BY DAVID MARTIN REGARDING THE FINDINGS OF THE COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE:

Communications Director David Martin said a task force had been formed to study the communication needs of the emergency response organizations. He said the creation of a task force was discussed in July, a committee was formed in September, and an initial meeting was held on November 14. Martin said that at the last meeting (December 12), the committee discussed the availability of a tower site in the Charles community. He said the 240-foot BellSouth tower could be used as a third transmission site, and it would help to alleviate reception/transmission problems in the northern end. Mr. Martin said his office was trying to obtain a license from the Federal Communications Center for the site and a lease (\$400 a month) with American Tower. He said there was no guarantee the tower would correct all of the transmission problems; however, it would be a "vast improvement." Martin said the task force would continue to meet to determine the capabilities and needs of the emergency response agencies.

REQUEST FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE ELECTIONS OFFICE TO THE BONDURANT BUILDING (STOCKTON STREET, STATESVILLE, NC ON A TEMPORARY BASIS:

Support Services Director Jim Vernon said the members of the Board of Elections had expressed a need for additional office space, and they had agreed to use an area in the Bondurant Building on a temporary basis. He said the building's upper floor had 2,500 sq. ft., and the relocation of the offices to the site

would cost about \$2,000. Mr. Vernon said the site was a temporary solution, as the election board members had requested an area with at least 5,000 sq. ft.

PRESENTATION ON SPACE NEEDS AT THE WINTER PLANNING SESSION: Commissioner Williams asked for an update on the space needs of the county at the February Winter Planning Session.

Approved: _____

Clerk to the Board