

**IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BRIEFING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2006**

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met in Briefing Session on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at 5:00 P.M., in the Iredell County Government Center (South Wing Conference Room), 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.

Present were:

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

Staff present: County Manager Joel Mashburn, Deputy County Manager Susan Blumenstein, Human Resources Director Carolyn Harris, Health Director Donna Campbell, Environmental Health Supervisor Kelly Sheeks, Planning & Code Enforcement Director Lynn Niblock, Planning Supervisor Steve Warren, Planner Richard McHargue, Planner Rebecca Harper, and Clerk to the Board Jean Moore.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Tice

REQUEST FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL OF POLICY CHANGES FOR ARTICLE VI., HOLIDAYS AND LEAVE, ARTICLE VII., EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, AND FOR A REVISION TO THE RETIREE HEALTH PLAN: Human Resources Director Carolyn Harris discussed the following revisions to the benefits offered to county employees.

Change #1: Article VI. Holidays and Leave (Section 5. Annual Leave)

Recommendation: Change the number of accumulated annual leave that can be converted to sick leave from 40 to 80.

Reason: This change should prevent or significantly reduce the number of lost vacation hours for employees based on a review of hours converted and lost over the past 2 years.

Change #2: Article VII. Employee Benefits (Section 1. Insurance Benefits)

Recommendation: Change the percentage an employee must work to be eligible for participation in the County's health plan from 50% to 75%.

Reason: This change will allow more flexibility in job sharing and conform to the normal 30 hours per week recognized by most insurance companies as the full-time equivalent for eligibility.

(This is for any employees hired on or after July 1, 2006.)

Change #3: Retiree Health Plan

Recommendation: Change the years of service from 5 to 15 years, the age from 50 to 55 (except when service years are 30 or more) to be eligible for participation in the plan, and change the number of years of service for determining the amount the County will contribute to the cost of the retiree's premium.

Reason: To reduce the cost of providing health insurance, but still have a plan that will provide affordable coverage to retirees who serve the citizens of Iredell County for many years.

(This is for any employees hired on or after July 1, 2006.)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REQUESTS: Health Director Donna Campbell explained the various agenda requests for her department. (These were routine items that were placed on the consent agenda.)

Chairman Tice asked the current waiting time for septic permits, and Environmental Health Supervisor Kelly Sheeks provided the following information.

Mooresville area: 2 weeks

Statesville area: 3 weeks

Sheeks said recently a registered sanitarian was hired who had previously worked for Iredell County. He said that with this person's employment, the environmental department should continue to improve in the delivery of services.

ADJOURNMENT: The briefing session adjourned at approximately 6:30 P.M.

Approval: _____

Clerk to the Board