

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE PAMLICO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2014**

The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday February 3, 2014 in the Patsy H. Sadler Room of the Pamlico County Courthouse. All Commissioners are present with exception of Commissioner Ann Holton. Also present were Attorney Dave Baxter, County Manager Tim Buck and Clerk to the Board Kathy P. Cayton.

Chairman Paul Delamar gave the invocation and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Paul Delamar asked if there were any additions and/or deletions to the agenda. There were two (2) additions.

A motion was made by Commissioner Christine Mele and seconded by Commissioner Kenny Heath, the Board unanimously agreed to the additions of:

1. Submission of an application for the use of the State portion of Eastern Region Trust Funds for any potential water project resulting from the Reelsboro Tower Study.
2. Request to extend the tax listing period.

There were no members of the public to speak during a Public Comment Period.

The Board turned their attention to the Consent Agenda.

On a motion made by Commissioner Carl Ollison and seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Spain, the following resolutions were unanimously approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, the following amendments for the Winter Storm Response are hereby approved.

Food for feeding National Guard - ~\$200

Contracted clearing - ~\$1,700

TOTALS ~\$1,900

BE IT RESOLVED, the Tax Report for the month of December is hereby approved and the Chairman's signature is authorized thereon.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to solicit an RFP for firms or persons to perform contracted IT services is hereby approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to submit an application for use of the \$576,000 state portion of the North Carolina Eastern Region Trust Funds is hereby approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to extend the period for filing taxes due to the winter storm event until February 28, 2014 is hereby approved.

The Board then turned their attention to the correspondence agenda.

County Manager Tim Buck stated the County received one bid in the amount of \$76,100 for the Norris Building and requested Board direction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Spain and seconded by Commissioner Pat Prescott, to list the building with a local realtor. This motion was withdrawn.

Board members then wanted to discuss negotiating with the sole bidder.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pat Prescott and seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Spain and the Board unanimously agreed to recuse Chairman Paul Delamar from voting on negotiating with the sole bidder due to conflict of interest.

Vice-Chairman Christine Mele presided over the meeting.

Commissioner Pat Prescott made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Carl Ollison to negotiate with the sole bidder. This motion was withdrawn.

Commissioner Jimmy Spain made a motion to turn the building over to a realtor and negotiate for the lowest percentage of commission. This died for lack of a second.

On a motion made by Commissioner Christine Mele and seconded by Commissioner Pat Prescott, the following resolution was passed by majority vote. Commissioners Kenny Heath and Jimmy Spain cast dissenting votes.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to accept the sole bid on the Norris Building in the amount of \$76,100 is hereby accepted and approved.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kenny Heath and seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Spain, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION REGARDING PROPOSED
COASTAL HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE RATE INCREASES**

Whereas, Pamlico County is located in Homeowner Territory #48, which also includes portions of Currituck, Dare, and Hyde Counties; and

Whereas, the homeowners in Territory #48 already have one of the highest base rates for homeowners insurance in the State of North Carolina, with an annual base rate of \$1,021 for \$75,000 worth of coverage; and

Whereas, excluding the other 5 coastal territories, the current base rates range from \$336 annually to \$755 annually in the other NC territories; and

Whereas, the NC Rate Bureau has filed a request for increased base rates that will be reviewed by the NC Commissioner of Insurance in the coming weeks; and

Whereas, the proposed increase in base rates for Territory #48 is 9.8%, and would increase the base rate for \$75,000 worth of coverage from \$1,021 annually to \$1,121 annually; and

Whereas, homeowners insurance represents a significant financial burden for our property owners, and this burden has a negative impact on family budgets, the regional tourism industry, and small businesses including the local real estate market; and

Whereas, there is a significant disparity in homeowners insurance rates across North Carolina, and this disparity is unfair to homeowners in coastal North Carolina, including Pamlico County.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners strongly encourages the NC Commissioner of Insurance to not only reject the proposed 9.8% increase in base rates for Territory #48, but also reject any and all homeowner's insurance rate increases; and encourages the Commissioner to work toward a fairer homeowner's insurance rate structure for coastal North Carolina.

Adopted this the 3rd day of February, 2014

There being no further business on a motion made by Commissioner Kenny Heath and seconded by Commissioner Carl Ollison, the Board adjourned until Monday February 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk to the Board