

`CUMBERLAND COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
COURTHOUSE, 117 DICK STREET, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM 564
APRIL 6, 2017 – 10:30 A.M.
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Michael Boose
 Commissioner Larry Lancaster

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Charles Evans

OTHER COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT: Commissioner Glenn Adams
 Commissioner Jimmy Keefe
 Commissioner Marshall Faircloth

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Cannon, County Manager
 Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager
 Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager for Finance/
 Administrative Services
 Rob Hasty, Assistant County Attorney
 Randy Beeman, Emergency Services Director
 Gene Booth, Emergency Management Coordinator
 Jon Soles, Public Information Specialist
 Vicki Evans, Finance Director
 Jeffery Brown, Engineering & Infrastructure Director
 Deborah Shaw, Budget Analyst
 Heather Harris, Budget Analyst
 Candice White, Clerk to the Board
 Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk to the Board
 Press

Commissioner Lancaster called the meeting to order.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 5, 2017 POLICY COMMITTEE
 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Boose moved to approve the January 5, 2017 regular
 meeting minutes of the Policy Committee.

SECOND: Commissioner Lancaster

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (2-0)

2. CONSIDERATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)
 OPTIONS

BACKGROUND:

As part of the recovery process for Hurricane Matthew, the NC Division of Emergency Management is moving forward with its Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and has collaborated with declared counties to determine local needs as far as mitigating future losses. A major part of this process involves the evaluation of property losses to determine if acquisition, elevation or reconstruction in the Special Flood Hazard Zone is justified from a benefit-cost perspective. After examining the extent of damages and collecting information from various public meetings, staff is recommending that all three mitigation options (i.e., acquisition, elevation or reconstruction) be offered in the unincorporated portion of Cumberland County. Municipalities will submit their own plans and priorities for their respective communities.

At this point in the unincorporated area, there are twelve (12) applications for acquisition, five (5) applications for elevation, and four (4) applications for reconstruction. Only 1 of the 21 applications received is for properties that are physically located in the Special Flood Hazard Zone.

The total assessed value for all of these parcels to include primary structures, outbuildings and land is \$3,731,714.

RECOMMENDED/PROPOSED ACTION:

Staff recommends offering the full range of options available to homeowners under the HMGP program and moving this concept forward to the full Board of Commissioners for final consideration and approval at the April 18, 2017 regular meeting.

Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager, reviewed the background information and recommendation as recorded above.

Commissioner Boose stated he feels this would be the best option because it gives homeowners the full range of options.

MOTION: Commissioner Boose moved to recommend to the full board offering the full range of options available to homeowners under the HMGP program and moving this concept forward.

SECOND: Commissioner Lancaster

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (2-0)

3. COMMUNICATION PROCESS AND RESPONSES BY STAFF TO COMMUNICATION FROM A BOARD MEMBER

BACKGROUND:

Management was asked to place this item on the Policy Committee agenda for discussion. The County does not have a policy on information requests from Board members, but Management, the County Attorney and Clerk to the Board have attempted to consistently apply the following practice:

- If a Board member makes an inquiry which requires research, creation of a document or follow-up by email or memorandum, it has been the practice to share that information with the entire Board. This practice provides that all Board members have the value of the same information.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED ACTION:

For discussion purposes and guidance if revisions to this practice are desired.

Commissioner Boose stated he requested this item be added to the Policy Committee agenda. Commissioner Boose stated at times the responses to his requests were being sent to the full board and other times the responses were just sent to him individually. Commissioner Boose further stated he would like to see responses for specific information sent to the full board but responses to personal matters just sent back to the individual commissioner. Commissioner Keefe stated this could really overload the email inboxes of the full board but there needs to be a common practice or guidance so people are not being subjective.

Ms. Cannon stated there are a few new department heads that may not be aware of the practice that the County Manager, County Attorney and the Clerk to the Board have been using and she would make sure to reach out so everyone understands the practice. Commissioner Faircloth stated generally if a response is relevant to the full board he likes to receive a copy of the email so everyone has the same information.

Commissioner Boose stated he is pleased with the practice Ms. Cannon explained and he does not see the need in a policy. The consensus of the Policy Committee was to keep the unwritten practice that if a board member makes an inquiry which requires staff to research, create a document or follow-up by email or memorandum, the staff should share the information with the full board.

No action taken.

4. OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no other items of business.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:51 AM