

**ERWIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009
ERWIN, NORTH CAROLINA**

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Erwin with Mayor Patsy Carson presiding held a Special Called Meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 5:30 P.M. in Erwin, North Carolina.

Board members present were: Commissioners Norma Ennis, William Corbett, Michael West and Frank Taylor.

Board Members absent were: Commissioners Randy Baker and Mark Whitman.

Town Manager Bryan Thompson and Cynthia Patterson, Town Clerk was present.

Mayor Patsy Carson called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Commissioner Frank Taylor gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND ASSOCIATED
OBLIGATIONS OF TOWN**

Town Manger Bryan Thompson informed the Board that the Town has a number of potential businesses that are interested in starting in Erwin and they have expressed interest in moving forward with grant opportunities through the NC Rural Center. One grant that is available to new business that will create new jobs is called the Building Reuse Restoration Grant. This grant will allow up to \$10,000 per new job created, that's not jobs but actual net new jobs. For example, if you were moving from one community to the next and you created new jobs in that community, that does not count, were talking about actual new jobs.

This grant along with a number of other grants that may be available for existing in potential businesses would require some level of commitment from the local government. The grant with the NC Rural Center has a couple of requirements. One, the Town would be the applying party, primarily since we are a local government, we are able to facilitate the shared responsibilities with administering the grant and project ability to make sure that the records are kept and accurately report to the Rural Center. The other requirement would be the 3% local match.

The majority of the Board agreed that they need to do their part as a Board to enhance our community by showing some progress and initiative.

MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2009 CONTINUED**CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF
THE NC RURAL HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM**

This issue is dealing with Good Hope Hospital. There has been considerable conversation back and forth with Harnett County, Good Hope Board and the Town of Erwin to move forward. With that, one of the concerns is financing.

Harnett County Commissioner Gary House came forward and spoke. Mr. House stated that they have been working on this project for three (3) years. Mr. House stated that they are trying to get a Inpatient Mental Health Unit back at Good Hope Hospital which is located here in Erwin. This would bring in 16 inpatient Mental Health beds. To the Town of Erwin, this would mean at least 19 jobs possibly up to 21 brought here with good paying salaries. Once this is in place and running hopefully it will bring in outpatient services in some of the other parts of the hospital as well. Mr. House also stated that there is 1.5 million dollars at Sandhills Mental Health that is ear marked for inpatient mental health beds for Good Hope. At the State level, they have 9 million of fund balance more than the State would allow. With 60% percent of our mental patients are going to Dix's Hospital in the Sandhills region, the other 7 counties in our region only 20% percent are going to the State's facilities and you really want to get them in a private setting not a State Hospital. If we had a facility here it would save the County money for the Sheriffs' Dept. and also the City's money as well.

Mr. Thompson stated that the assurance the Town is willing to make this commitment and attached to this is a resolution that would signify that the Town is willing to make a commitment. Should the Board decide to approve this resolution then this resolution along with a letter of commitment indicating in detail what the intentions are of this Board and of the Town so far as this particular grant is concerned would be given to the grant writer. Mr. Thompson also stated that the Town should meet the June 1st deadline.

A suggestion from Mr. Thompson is to have two (2) motions passed, one to adopt as written and another just in case that this needs to be changed, for instance, if the Town adopts the existing resolution then not a word, not a letter can be changed and would be authentic.

Commissioner Corbett made a motion to adopt the resolution as written and was seconded by Commissioner Ennis. The Board voted 4 for and 2 absent. (Commissioners Baker and Whitman)

Commissioner Corbett made a motion to change the language of this resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. The Board voted 4 for and 2 absent. (Commissioners Baker and Whitman)

MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2009 CONTINUED**CONSIDERATION OF MUNICIPAL PARK PARTF PROJECT DOCUMENT
EXECUTION AUTHORITY**

Commissioner Corbett made a motion to appoint Bryan Thompson, Town Manager and Patsy Carson, Mayor as the delegate of PARTF Signatory Authority and was seconded by Commissioner West. The Board voted 4 for and 2 absent. (Commissioners Baker and Whitman)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn at 6:15 P.M. and was seconded by Commissioner West. The Board voted 4 for and 2 absent. (Commissioners Baker and Whitman)

**MINUTES RECORDED AND TYPED BY CYNTHIA B. PATTERSON,
TOWN CLERK**

Mayor Patsy M. Carson

Cynthia B. Patterson, Town Clerk