

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WILLIE GLADDEN

ADMINISTRATOR  
CLERK TO COUNCIL  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

RON MUNNERLYN  
PATRICIA BUNDY  
HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,  
CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.  
DR. CAROLYN PRINCE,  
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

WILLIE GLADDEN,  
CORRIE H. PLATO,  
VERD ODOM,  
ANTHONY WOODS

\* Absent

Others Present: Ms. Lynn McQueen, Marlboro Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Lynn McQueen of the Marlboro Herald Advocate, and posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building and on the county's website ([www.marlbocounty.sc.gov](http://www.marlbocounty.sc.gov)).

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the amended agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

PRESENTATIONS

2017 INITIATIVES – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Page Two – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Director of Economic Development, to make his presentation.

Mr. Munnerlyn presented a slide show to members of Council which is attached to and made a part of these minutes (Exhibit "A") and stated that we have several concerns in our county that need improvement. He mentioned Healthcare, Personal Economic Conditions, Safety, and Education, and lack of Amenities.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that many of these are long-term fixes and this makes it difficult to move forward. He stated that money helps resolve many of the problems.

He stated that public money is to provide public services to the citizens and these funds can be increased by charging more taxes to the citizens but that any increase in revenue from this source is needed to just maintain the status-quo such as building repairs and other public needs.. He stated that the state has placed a cap on the amount of any increase in taxes and have based this cap on the inflations rate and population growth. He stated that this year, the county has been advised that we can only raise taxes by 1.2% which only equals out to around \$85,000. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that one mil brings in \$66,000. He stated that Marlboro County's population growth has actually decreased by 2% from last year. So therefore it is difficult to raise any significant amount of revenue.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that more money may be raised by charging user fees where possible and staff is presently looking at this now. He stated that the county could have more money by having a more efficient government and he stated that staff is currently working on that as well.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that one way to increase available money past the basic levels needs for public expenses is economic development.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that from the private sector, we could create jobs that would allow folks to spend locally and try to create a tax from those passing through. He mentioned tourism and stated that the Chamber of Commerce President was present at the meeting tonight and they focus on this same idea of tourism.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that pure economic development was a means to raise funds for the county but stated that the county just does not have what it needs to order to bring industry to our area. He stated that the focus of the Economic Development Partnership had strayed and it does more than economic development. He stated that even Marlboro Electric has its own development team.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he met earlier in the day with a Department of Commerce contact and this contact told him what he already knew. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that we know what our problems are but just need to fix the problems. He stated that he felt the problems could be fixed without complication and that it was clear to him what needed to be done.

### **Page Three – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the county needed goals and a single point of contact. He stated that the commerce folks need to have one person to contact that they can call that can tell them quickly what Marlboro County has to offer. He stated that our buildings that we have for industry are not in good shape and we do not need to continue to polish them in to trying to make them look good. He stated that the Department of Commerce has prospects that call them and tell them what they have and ask for ideas as to where they can look for making their ideas a reality. The commerce folks know what counties have their act together and know that they can call these counties and get a package of incentives quickly to report back to the industry prospects and those are the counties that the commerce recommends.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Partnership needs to be more involved in tourism and new residents. He mentioned “Destination Marlboro.” He mentioned that we needed to develop simple method of getting outsiders involved. He stated that some folks refer to this as “low hanging fruit” because it is easily gotten. He stated that he felt that we needed to be careful not to brag but to push what we do have that is different. He stated that some things that we have may be the old homes and attractive old buildings in our area and our rural agricultural land. He stated that our area has a low cost of living and this will attract many folks. He stated that Marlboro County is in the middle of nowhere but yet in the middle of everything with being 90 miles from the beach and Columbia and close to Charlotte and other large areas.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with a coordinated effort from Bennettsville Downtown Development Association, the Marlboro Chamber of Commerce and others, we needed to have a creative marketing idea. He mentioned a local FM radio station and stated that Clio had one that we might be able to use that folks could listen to while stuck in traffic. He mentioned marketing in an airline magazine. He mentioned social media and stated that Greenville has something going on where they enter “#Greenville” and it finds all events that are going on in their area.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he is working on getting a data base of all downtown properties that will be stored electronically and this will allow him to know what is available when he is notified of potential prospects. He stated that we needed to create a steering committee and working committee with folks that understand our area and who we are. He stated that we should reach out to folks that have moved here from other states and find out why they came to our area and what they like about are area and market on the things that we learn.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that these are things that we are working on and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked if he had met with BDDA yet on these ideas and Mr. Munnerlyn stated that no meetings had been scheduled yet but they would be included when things get started.

**Page Four – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked Mr. Munnerlyn if the county needed another spec building since the county had given the current spec building to a recent industry and since our Winn-Dixie building will be transferred to Northern Tech for their training center. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the county did need land and a new spec building. He stated that the county needed both.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that the county needed to get property close to the interstate so that we could pull truckers in from the new Inland Port.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Inland Port was a big deal and stated that it will primarily benefit Harbor Freight but will benefit other companies as well. He stated that he hoped that we could get some spin offs from the Inland Port for Marlboro County.

Dr. Prince stated that she heard that the building of the Inland Port had not started yet.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it had started and that it was a real thing. He stated that Dillon had put everything they had into this project and that if it did not go well, Dillon would be losing big time.

Mr. Munnerlyn asked if there were any other questions and there were none.

Chairman Steen thanked Mr. Munnerlyn for his presentation and agreed that we needed to move things forward.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 752 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF DISPOSING OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REPEALING ORDINANCE # 438 AND # 438A

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on the Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this the Ordinance before Council was an up to date policy for dealing with surplus properties and also authorizes the Sheriff to dispose of service weapons to retired law enforcement officers with certain conditions.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or council members on this Ordinance. There were no comments.

The Public Hearing was closed.

**Page Five – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 14, 2017

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the minutes of March 14, 2017 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Anthony Woods, Mr. Charles P. Midgely, Jr., Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Mr. Steve Blackmon, Mr. Verdi Odom, and Ms. Corrie Plato. Abstain: Dr. Carolyn Prince (not present for the March 14, 2017 Council meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 752 - AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF DISPOSING OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REPEALING ORDINANCE # 438 AND # 438A – THIRD READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated this is the final reading of this Ordinance and the public hearing was held on this earlier with comments being made.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgely, Jr., seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 752 – an Ordinance establishing the method of disposing of surplus property and repealing Ordinance # 438 and # 438A. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 753 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PROPERTY TRANSFER AGREEMENT FOR THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FROM THE COUNTY OF MARLBORO TO NORTHEASTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE – SECOND READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance allows staff to move forward with the transfer of the Winn-Dixie building to the Northeastern Technical College which will be housing their training center. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that there may be some fine-tuning but nothing will change from the core points that Council agreed to earlier. He stated that this was the second reading and the third reading and public hearing would hopefully happen next month.

**Page Six – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions and there were none.

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the second reading of Ordinance #753 – an Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a property transfer agreement for the transfer of property from the County of Marlboro to Northeastern Technical College. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 754 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND PROBITAS VENTURES, LLC PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - SECOND READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance deals with a part of the old Carolina ACC project which is being restarted. He stated that he told the folks that certain improvements would need to be made to the property before any action would be taken by Council. He stated the improvements had begun and recommended that the second reading being approved of this Ordinance.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 754 – an Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a Fee Agreement by and between Marlboro County, South Carolina, and Probitas Ventures, LLC providing for payment of a fee in lieu of taxes and other matters related thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 755 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance deals with our budget for the upcoming year of 2017-2018 and is being recommended for first reading in title only. He stated that Ms.

**Page Seven – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Ainsley Moore will talk more about a graph that will be used for tracking expenses and revenues. He stated that government in general is good about tracking expense but are not good in tracking revenues. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the state has limited the county's ability to raise taxes. He stated that staff needed to try to estimate where revenues will come from next year. He stated that staff has been using our fund balance and we have estimated using \$1.1 million to make ends meet for the current year. He stated that the amount currently in the fund balance is around \$4.5 million but a certain amount is expected to be maintained. He stated that staff only used \$200,000 last year as shown in red in the graph which he had displayed for Council to view but stated that really do not want to use any. He stated that right now staff is thinking that \$600,000 will be used from the fund balance to balance for the current year. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that money needed to be spent in the basic upkeep of our buildings. He stated that the buildings have not been kept up and now they cannot go any longer without needing major improvements and these improvements cost. He stated that next year will be tough. He stated that the Chairman will come up with some dates for budget discussion. He stated that the city is working on their budget but they have electricity to sell but the county does not have anything like that to help increase its revenue.

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked Mr. Munnerlyn if he was saying that we will need to use \$600,000 to balance the budget for the current year 2016-2017. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that was the estimated amount that they expect to need to balance the budget.

Dr. Prince then asked if we would need to use that same amount to balance the budget for 2017-2018 and Mr. Munnerlyn replied that to be true most likely.

Dr. Prince then asked what the current balance of the Fund Balance was and Mr. Munnerlyn responded it was approximately \$4.5 million. Dr. Prince stated that for the current year and next year there is an anticipated reduction of \$1.2 million from our Fund Balance. Mr. Munnerlyn confirmed statement to be true. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he hoped that staff would only need \$400,000 from the fund balance this year but was just not sure at this point. Mr. Munnerlyn mentioned the Local Government Fund and stated that the county has not received what was due it for about eight years and it has really caused the rural counties to suffer financially. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the public needs to understand the budget and how it works so that folks will understand that we are really doing the best that we can with the funds that we have to work with.

Mr. Steve Blackmon stated that the state is misleading folks by not giving the counties what they are due.

Chairman Steen stated that if the Local Government Fund had paid the county what we were due we would have received more than \$4 million which would help in a big way but without the funds we have to make do with what we have.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions and there were none.

**Page Eight – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 755 – an Ordinance to adopt the annual budget and to make appropriations for Marlboro County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 756 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2018 TO FY 2022 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the first reading in title only of a Capital Improvement Plan where staff comes up with a list of large capital items with no money which may be needed over a five year period. He stated that this Ordinance is tied to the budget.

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 756 – an Ordinance to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the period of FY 2018 to FY 2022. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-17-01 – A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES E911 OFFICE AND MARLBORO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES E911 OFFICE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was a standard agreement between Chesterfield County and Marlboro County Emergency Services 911 offices to provide back up for one another.

**Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve Resolution # 04-17-01 – a Resolution ratifying an Intergovernmental Agreement between Chesterfield County Emergency Services E911 office and Marlboro County Emergency Services E911 office. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-17-02 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MARLBORO COUNTY TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF McCOLL PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES WITHIN A DESIGNATED UNINCORPORATED AREA OF MARLBORO COUNTY

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this is a standard agreement that we have had for a number of years. He stated that he had sent a letter to McColl Mayor Bobby Odom suggesting that the agreement be renewed as is. He stated that the arrangement seems to work well both the McColl and the County.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve Resolution # 04-17-02 – A Resolution authorizing Marlboro County to renew the agreement with the City of McColl providing fire protection services within a designated unincorporated area of Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-17-03 – A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING A PROJECT TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE, SO AS TO ALLOW INVESTMENT EXPENDITURES INCURRED BY A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AS PROJECT PROBITAS, ITS AFFILIATES AND RELATED ENTITIES, TO QUALIFY AS EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES ARRANGEMENT WITH MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES, INCLUDING SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the Resolution reiterated the action taken by the Ordinance earlier discussed in connection with Carolina ACC and recommended that the Resolution be adopted.

**Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve Resolution # 04-17-03 – a Resolution identifying a project to satisfy the requirements of Title 12, Chapter 44 of the South Carolina Code, so as to allow investment expenditures incurred by a company known to the county as Project Probitas, its affiliates and related entities, to qualify as expenditures eligible for a fee-in-lieu of taxes arrangement with Marlboro County, South Carolina; providing for other related economic development incentives, including special source revenue credits; and other matters related there. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

**Page Ten – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

APPROVAL OF CONTROL MANAGEMENT, INC. (CMI) AGREEMENT – PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE LIBRARY

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this agreement.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this agreement renews an existing contract with Control Management, Inc. with regards to the heating and air system at the public library. He recommended the renewal of this agreement.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the Control Management, Inc. (CMI) Agreement – Preventive Maintenance for the library. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

OPENING & ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS

COURTROOM CEILINGS AT MARLBORO COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that there was a safety situation and unattractive situation with the courtroom at the courthouse. He stated that the ceiling is falling down. He stated that the ceiling is really high and currently has an acoustic type ceiling that pops up into a grid. He stated that the courtroom had not been painted since 1996 which was the time that Judge Edward Cottingham's portrait unveiling. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was one thing that has not been taken care of and now we are having problems with leaks and portions of the ceiling falling down. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that a portion of the old roof was still leaking and they were having that repaired as well and stated that the leak repairs would be done before the ceiling work could begin. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he did not feel this project as an option but felt that it was something that had to be done. He stated that the bids received included repairing the ceiling tiles and also painting of the courtroom.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that two bids were received, one from Rosser Roofing in the amount of \$39,500 and one from Henley Construction in the amount of \$48,500 to replace the entire ceiling and \$24,000 for a 12x12 section. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Rosser Roofing stated that it would be impossible to match a portion of the ceiling and only bid on the entire project.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff is recommending that the bid from Rosser Roofing in the amount of \$39,500 be accepted as the lowest, responsive, and responsible bid.

**Page Eleven – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked where the funds would come from to pay for the work and Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the funds would come from the general fund. Chairman Steen asked what the time frame was to have this work done and Mr. Munnerlyn responded that Rosser would start soon but would have to coordinate the work with the judges' schedules.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any additional questions and there were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to award the lowest responsive and responsible bid for Courtroom Ceilings at Marlboro County Courthouse to Rosser Roofing in the amount of \$39,500. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

MACADAM BASE "CRUSHER RUN"

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the bids were rejected at last month's council meeting and the bid for macadam base "crusher run" was re-bid. He stated that staff received one bid this time and received 28 more tons for a payment of \$50,000. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this amount seems low but that staff had looked at this and it takes a dedicated fleet of trucks to get the crusher run to us and based on this it doesn't seem that high. He stated that staff needs the rock and he felt that this was the best that could be done and recommended that the bid from Furr Grading and Paving be accepted as the responsive and responsible bid.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions and there were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to award the bid for the Macadam Base "Crusher Run" to Furr Grading and Paving for a total of 2,500 tons for a payment of \$50,000 as the lowest, responsive and responsible bid. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSION

CONSIDERATION OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MS. RENA MCLAIN TO SERVE ON THE PEE DEE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE-YEAR TERM (A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR MARLBORO COUNTY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that Ms. Rena McLain has been recommended by the Pee Dee Workforce Development Board for reappointment for an additional three year term to represent the private sector for Marlboro County.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the re-appointment of Ms. Rena McLain to serve on the Pee Dee Workforce Development Board for an additional three-year term (a representative of the private sector for Marlboro county). Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Chairman Steen asked if there were any additional appointments.

The following appointments were recommended:

**Economic Development Partnership Board**

District 5	Joan Johnakin	New Appointment
District 7	Keith Cheek	New Appointment
District 8	Lorenza McRae (replacing Frankie Frazier)	New Appointment

Prior to the vote, Administrator Munnerlyn asked for clarification from Councilman Wood, asking if his intent was to replace sitting Partnership Board member with Lorenzo McRae to which Mr. Woods responded “yes”.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the appointments to the Economic Development Partnership Board as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Mr. Munnerlyn asked Councilman Woods to address the apparent confusion by his appointment to the Recreation Board made at the previous meeting. Mr. Anthony Woods stated that he would like to withdraw the appointment of Ms. Miranda Ingram to the Marlboro County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board which was made on March 14, 2017 and to re-appoint Mr. Samuel McCollum back to the board. He stated that he had talked with some folks in Clio and he felt that it best to leave Mr. McCollum on the Board to represent the Clio district.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to withdraw the appointment of Ms. Miranda Ingram to the Marlboro County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and to re-appoint Mr. Samuel McCollum to serve on that board to represent the Clio residents. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Chairman Steen asked if there were any additional appointments and there were none.

**REPORTS**

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE**

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director.

## Page Thirteen – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting

Ms. Moore reported that expenditures were at 71% of the budgeted amount which was slightly under budget for this point in the fiscal year and revenues were at 72% of the budgeted amount for the fiscal year.

Ms. Moore stated that some graphical representations of revenues and expenses have been prepared and that copies of the graphs were included along with the financial reports for Council's review. She stated that the bar graph showed a comparison of expenses in red versus revenues in green for each month for the current fiscal year. She stated that December and January were peak months for receipts due to tax collections but stated that expenses were at a steady average every month. She stated that the line graph on the back of the page which was provided to Council showed the fluctuation of revenue per month over the past several fiscal years and stated that there tended to be a similar trend.

Ms. Moore stated that staff had begun inputting figures for the 2018 fiscal year and would continue to work toward constructing a conservative budget, especially in light of the continuing shortfall in Local Government Funds. She stated that meetings have been scheduled with all department heads and work would continue to analyze spending and aim for the most efficient use of the County's limited funds. She stated that the department heads were very much aware of the decrease in the Local Government Fund and were working hard to budget their departments accordingly.

Ms. Moore reported that according to reports from the South Carolina Association of Counties, the Senate has adopted its version of the budget which included a \$33,692,568 recurring increase to the Local Government Fund, but that the increase was created by taking the House allocation of \$33 million to cover 1% of the retirement system local government employers' increase and appropriating that money to the Local Government Fund. She stated that the increase would cover a small percentage of the increase in employer retirement system contributions but would still leave the County with a huge shortfall in the Local Government Fund. She stated that the County does not receive enough from the Local Government Fund to fund the state mandated departments as it is and the County would now be required to pay for the increase in retirement as well.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Chairman Steen thanked Ms. Moore for her report.

### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerylyn, County Administrator.

Mr. Munnerylyn stated that his report had been changed in the length and detail. He stated that he felt it best to enhance the information presented to Council during action items on the agenda so that they could make more informed decisions rather than reading a report to them. His report was as follows:

**EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES** - The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of March: Don Driggers (6 years); Harry R. Easterling, Jr. (8 years); Cathy Pearson (28 years); and Annie Ruth Caulder (41 years).

### **UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS**

1. **Tri-County Community Mental Health Center’s Stakeholders’ Meeting** – Tri-County Community Mental Health Center’s Stakeholders’ Meeting has been scheduled for April 20, 2017 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at the Tri-County offices at 1036 Cheraw Street, Bennettsville, SC. All Council members are invited to attend to have input into the center’s strategic planning process. There will be light refreshments available.

### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Performance Metrics- Mr. Munneryn stated that he has asked all Departments to report each month on key performance indicators or metrics for their areas of responsibility. Examples would include such items as:

- number of call and types of calls for 911
- animal intake for animal control
- business licenses and fee revenue for building codes, etc.

He stated that this was a standard practice in the private sector and was a good practice in any organization. He stated that the KPI’s would allow people to measure their progress and help manager manage their areas.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Partnership meeting – Mr. Munneryn stated that their first quarterly meeting was held last week and stated that they had good attendance and that with the new appointees which were made earlier tonight, that vacancies on board would be filled with individuals with relevant experience. He stated that they have agreed to have a quarterly meeting in the mornings and then monthly meetings in the afternoon.

Commerce feedback- Mr. Munneryn stated that he had met with several Commerce staff members over the last couple of months with the latest meeting earlier that day. He stated that the meetings confirmed his analysis of the County’s program – that the County has a lot of work to do, primarily, ability locally to respond quickly and thoroughly to prospect inquires, the “product” that the county has to offer (industrial sites/buildings), and the overall appearance of the community as a whole.

## Page Fifteen – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it was his goal to add value to Partnership membership, which was to focus the offering of the organization to benefit industry and business with less of “social club” feeling to events.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the partnership’s first effort would be a meeting in early May at the Winn-Dixie building to receive input from biz and industry.

### ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff has been very busy preparing the budget and that this task would consume the Administrative staff over the next month or so.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff continues to work to identify needed repairs and the funding to pay for them. He stated that staff was working with the Auditors to develop an account into which staff could transfer this fiscal years’ funds so they are not lost for next year. He stated that it was important that we take the hit this year and try to start next year fresh.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

### RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN’S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that there were two citizens that signed up to address Council and he recognized them.

**Brenda Dixon** – greeted Council and the citizens and thanked Council for allowing her to speak. She stated that she was appearing on behalf of the Pee Dee Coalition and appreciated Council including the Pee Dee Coalition in their standard budget and asked that they please consider keeping supporting their group as they have done in the past. She stated that she would ask for an increase after hearing the Administrator’s presentation about the upcoming budget but would greatly appreciate keeping the contribution the same as it had been in the past.

Ms. Dixon stated that she did want to share some good news with the Council. She stated that the shelter which they had which closed a couple of years ago would be reopened around the first of May. She stated the prior shelter which the Coalition had could only allow folks to stay for a 90 day period but that the new shelter would be a transitional shelter and folks would be allowed to stay for up to 18 months. She stated that the Coalition had the funds for the shelter that have come from grant funds which do require a match and that is one reason they so desperately need the county to keep the Coalition in their budget at the same as it had been in the past. She stated that with the funds, the Coalition would be hiring some folks that would include a case manager and a counselor to work at the shelter. She stated that she wanted to share this good news with Council so that they would know that their funds are being used to benefit the citizens of the county.

**Page Sixteen – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

**Arthur Fennell** – thanked Council for allowing him to address them. Mr. Fennell stated that he was born and raised in Marlboro County and that he loved Marlboro County. He stated that he moved away and stated that some might remember him from his time with TV13. He stated that he wanted to give back and what better way than with food and comradery.

Mr. Fennell stated that last year the First Annual Marlboro County Cook Off was held which allowed many men to come together Father's Day weekend and fellowship. He stated that the response was great and they had news coverage from 15, 13, the local paper and social media. He stated that folks came from Charlotte, Darlington and from other areas to enjoy good food and fellowship. He stated there were near 400 people attending. He stated that they plan to have the Second Annual event and needed support. He stated that there are entry fees for those that wish to participate and that the proceeds are used to provide a scholarship to a local student in the county. He stated that this was a positive event for Marlboro County. He requested the sum of \$500 from County Council to support this event and cause.

Mr. Willie Gladden asked how many participants he had last year and Mr. Fennell stated that there were more than 400 folks that participated but about 15 folks entered the actual cook off.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Mr. Verd Odom** – No comments.

**Mr. Steve Blackmon** – No comments.

**Dr. Carolyn Prince** – No comments.

**Mr. Willie Gladden** – thanked Ms. Brenda Dixon for her service to the Pee Dee Coalition and stated that he thought at one time that Marlboro County had the highest numbers of domestic violence in the state. He thanked Ms. Dixon and the Coalition for what they are doing for the citizens of Marlboro County and stated that he understood that they needed all of the financial help that they could get.

Mr. Gladden thanked Mr. Arthur Fennell for what he was doing.

**Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr.** – No comments.

**Ms. Corrie Plato** – No comments.

**Mr. Anthony Woods** – stated that he was one of the grillers at the cook off last year and there was a great turn out. He stated that they had good fellowship. He stated that he planned to attend again this year.

**Page Seventeen – April 11, 2017 County Council Meeting**

Mr. Woods stated that Clio had a new resident in Clio and they were operating a restaurant on Society Street called CL10 Grill. He stated these were good people and was a great little restaurant that provided food to go.

Mr. Woods mentioned the incident which occurred on Myrtle Street in Clio and how he appreciated the efforts by the Marlboro County Sheriff's Department. He stated that things could have really gotten ugly but the deputies that responded to the call did a great job and that the incident was kept low key.

**Mr. Willie Gladden** – stated that he appreciated all of the departments and their willingness to work together as well as they do. He thanked Sheriff Lemon who was present at the Council meeting for his good work and his staff's good work.

**Chairman Jason Steen** – thanked Sheriff Lemon and his staff for a job well done. He stated that public safety was a real issue in Marlboro County.

Chairman Steen stated that Marlboro County was one of the dirtiest in the state but stating that staff was working on a plan to clean things up. He stated that everyone knew that something must be done to correct the problems with trash.

Chairman Steen stated that Dr. Carolyn Prince and Ms. Corrie Plato had been on the Council for many years and he was sure that they have seen good times and bad times. He stated that the county could do many things if we received the funds that were actually due from the Local Government Fund. He stated that he understood that there was a big task ahead of Council and he appreciated the presentation made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator. He stated that he was certain that Mr. Munnerlyn would look at everything and see what could be done. He stated that everyone would like a cleaner and better Marlboro County.

Chairman Steen stated that he would be working on scheduling some meetings after 5:00 to have budget discussions and asked what day of the week would be best to have these meetings and most folks responded that any day after 5:00 would work. Chairman Steen stated that he would get some dates and send them out to members of Council next week.

**Mr. Anthony Woods** – stated that Ms. Corrie Plato's dog, Jazzy, was missing and that anything anyone could do to help spread the word to find her dog would be greatly appreciated.

NON - AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

ADJOURN

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

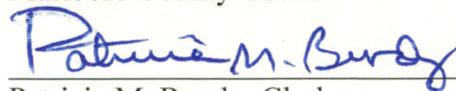
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:13 p.m.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Jason K. Steen, Chairman  
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk  
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: May 9, 2017