

MINUTES**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON****BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 26, 1998**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Those present were: Chairman Bob Eklund, Vice-Chair Grady Hawkins, Commissioner Vollie G. Good, Commissioner Renee Kumor, Commissioner Don Ward, Assistant County Manager/Staff Attorney Angela M. Skerrett and Finance Director J. Carey McLelland.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Eklund called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. He stated that this was a workshop for the purpose of discussing the need for school facilities and for discussing the Board of Commissioners' Mission Statement.

REVIEW OF PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' RESPONSIBILITY

Angela Skerrett reviewed the Board of Commissioners' responsibilities of the county concerning the maintenance and construction of school facilities. She passed around a hand-out entitled "Summary of Certain North Carolina General Statutes taken from Article 31, the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act" and discussed same.

Chairman Eklund had appointed a sub-committee consisting of Commissioners Kumor and Hawkins to develop this workshop.

REVIEW OF RECENT HISTORY

Commissioner Kumor reviewed the recent history of Commissioners' actions concerning school facilities. These included review of school projects, the hiring of a consulting firm to review the school's proposal and the referendum of November 18, 1997.

ANALYSIS OF RECENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' FUNDING FOR CAPITAL/MAINTENANCE

Vice-Chairman Hawkins provided the Board of Commissioners with a recent analysis of the Board's funding of capital and maintenance. He reminded the Board that they had funded 80% of the school's requests since 1990.

Vice-Chairman Hawkins reviewed the funding sources that are currently available to assist the schools with their maintenance needs. These sources include the Public School Building Capital Fund or ADM Fund and our capital reserve. The ADM Fund is funded by the corporate income tax and required a local match of three state dollars to one local dollar. The county's school capital reserve fund came from a reduction in the school's current expense allocation in FY 1996-97. He recommended that in order to provide additional funding for school maintenance in the current fiscal year and the next, the Board should draw down from the ADM Fund \$900,000.00 and provide the \$300,000.00 match from our capital reserve. This would still leave funds in both of these accounts for emergency and to provide for future projects.

DISCUSSION OF SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS