

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MAY 23, 2007

5:15 P.M.

**NORTH CAROLINA
MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Special Session in Conference Center Room 267 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 2007.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners Karen Bentley, J. Daniel Bishop, Dumont Clarke and Dan Ramirez
County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr.
Clerk to the Board Janice S. Paige

Absent: Commissioners H. Parks Helms, Bill James, Norman A. Mitchell, Sr. and Valerie C. Woodard

Commissioner Ramirez was absent when the meeting was called to order and until noted in the minutes.

The meeting was called to order by City of Charlotte Mayor Patrick McCrory.

This was a joint meeting between Charlotte City Council and the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC).

The Board of County Commissioners was invited to attend, but not necessarily as active participants. Chairman Roberts was an active participant because she serves on the MTC. The other Commissioners that were present listened in on the discussion for informational purposes only.

The agenda for the meeting consisted of the items below and were addressed by those indicated.

1. Welcome and Introductions by Mayor McCrory, MTC Chairman
2. MTC: Background on how we got here by Mayor Randy Kincaid, Davidson
(The presentation addressed the establishment of the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS), the MTC and passage of the ½ cent sales tax for transit in 1998.)

Commissioner Ramirez entered the meeting during this time.

3. Rapid Transit Corridors: Selection Criteria and Status
 - Selection Process and Criteria by Ron Tober
 - Corridor Reports
 - North Corridor by Mayors Kincaid, Knox and Phillips; Ron Tober
 - Northeast Corridor by Ron Tober
 - Southeast Corridor by Ron Tober
 - Streetcar Corridor by Ron Tober
 - West Corridor by Ron Tober
4. General Discussion
5. FY2008/09 Transit Program and Budget (approved by MTC on April 25, 2007) by Ron Tober

6. General Discussion

Copies of handouts related to the above topics are on file with the Clerk to the Board.

BOCC Comments

Chairman Roberts asked about the approval of Charlotte Area Transit System's (CATS) annual budget. *It was explained that originally the Board of County Commissioners did vote on CATS' annual budget but later took action to remove itself from that part of the process.*

Chairman Roberts asked about Charlotte City Council having an additional vote on the MTC. *It was explained that this was suggested in the "major" report, but it did not move forward since it was the decision of the MTC not to have an Authority type structure, thus, it did not seem necessary to increase the MTC's membership.*

Note: Commissioner Bishop left the meeting during the Northeast Corridor presentation and returned during the West Corridor presentation.

Note: Commissioners Bentley and Ramirez left the meeting prior to the start of the FY2008/09 Transit Program and Budget presentation and were absent for the remainder of the meeting.

Chairman Roberts emphasized the importance of elected officials' support of transit initiatives. She said everyone needs to have a clear understanding of the issues and that if there are gaps in the flow of information or policy questions that need to be addressed then these matters should be worked on.

Chairman Roberts said the public and surrounding counties are looking at the reaction of elected officials with respect to transit matters.

No action was taken or required.

Those present were reminded of a Special Meeting that would take place in Cornelius regarding the transit tax on June 27, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. Bus transportation from the Government Center to Cornelius will be available.

The above is not inclusive of every comment but is a summary. Again, the Board of County Commissioners was invited to sit in, but they were not active participants, other than Chairman Roberts.

A copy of a meeting summary prepared by the City is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Janice S. Paige, Clerk

Jennifer Roberts, Chairman