

Closed Session IV (Project Liberty) — September 8, 2014

At 7:40 p.m., already in closed session on another matter, began closed session on a different matter relating to the location or expansion of business in the area, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4). Commissioners Holmes, Frye, Kemp, Lanier and Haywood were present. Also present were County Manager Richard Wells; Will Massie, Assistant County Manager/Finance Officer; County Attorney Ben Morgan; Aimee Scotton, Associate County Attorney; Amanda Varner, Clerk to the Board; Dana Crisco, Deputy Clerk; Bonnie Renfro, Randolph County EDC President and Kevin Franklin, EDC.

Bonnie Renfro, Randolph County EDC President, stated that the Bryan Foundation, through a private entity, continues to work to secure contracts to acquire land for the Greensboro-Liberty mega site and additional properties have been purchased. Reports state that \$3 million has been spent to date on the purchased property.

She said that a client visited North Carolina last week via helicopter and then met with state senior leadership. She said the EDC had been advised that plans would move forward within 18 months once a decision has been made, and they should do anything and everything possible to be site ready. She had been notified that the City of Greensboro has applied for the Golden Leaf Fund to cover the water/sewer infrastructure.

Commissioner Haywood asked if the landowners are selling willfully since there are those who have stated that citizens of the area are being forced to sell. Ms. Renfro said she has not heard of anyone that has been forced and knows of some who once declined, but now are selling.

Ms. Renfro stated that the state grant can be transferred to the Randolph County Development Corp., which the Board was in agreement of doing at the regular meeting on September 3, 2013. The Randolph County Development Corp. would accept the grant and administer on behalf of the county.

Following discussion, the Commissioners wished to proceed with that transfer pending state approval.

At 7:52 p.m., on motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to end closed session and to return to regular session.

J. Harold Holmes, Chairman

Darrell L. Frye

Phil Kemp

Stan Haywood

Arnold Lanier

Amanda Varner, Clerk to the Board