



**City of Boiling Spring Lakes
Board of Commissioners Workshop
February 19, 2019
City Hall – 7:00 p.m.**

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES

A ***motion*** was made by Commissioner Barger, a ***second*** by Commissioner Stewart pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(3) that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners move out of Closed Session.

Vote ~ 5 ~ 0

1. Call to Order ~ Mayor Craig Caster

The Board of Commissioners Workshop was called to order at 7: 15 p.m.

Mayor Caster announced we are here tonight for the Board of Commissioners Workshop of February 19, 2019 to review Hurricane Procedures pre-storm and post-storm. Our City Staff is present along with the BSL Police Department and BSL Fire Department.

2. Attendance ~

Mayor Craig Caster	Commissioner Steve Barger
Commissioner Mark Stewart	Commissioner Guy Auger
City Manager Jeff Repp	Commissioner Dana Witt
Acting Chief, Rick Spencer	City Clerk Jane McMinn

Commissioner Witt commented this hurricane was of epic proportions and none of us were prepared. I think having this formal After Action Review will help benefit all of us for the next time. After Action Review is a formal discussion that enables staff to review for themselves, what happened, why it happened and how to sustain strengths and improve weaknesses.

Commissioner Witt and the Board would like to hear from each department head and give us their comments and review their needs for future.

City Manager Repp ~

Mr. Repp stated City staff performed as our Emergency Operation Manual guidelines stipulate. On the Monday prior to the storm based on the forecast we had been receiving updates from the County. The Mayor issued a State of Emergency. From that point on, the City began preparations by dropping the lake level as far as we could. As the week moved on we continued to drop the levels of the lake in further preparation as the rain

forecast continued to change. Mr. Repp confirmed the gates at the dam were open during the entire event. Russ Brindle, our consulting engineer made the decision to open the gates further based on his calculations of the amount of water that was flowing into the dam. The Big Lake breached on Saturday night, September 15, 2018 at approximately 7:10 p.m. The breaches on E. Boiling Spring Road, North Lake and Pine Lake happened after the breach on the Big Lake. The Police Department had been preparing all week, who would stay and who would go. We did the same thing with Public Works. We had 9 police officers here at City Hall and several “guests.” Public Works had 4 staff members who were sheltered in place at the Public Works Building. We lost Spectrum cell service Friday evening. Mr. Repp stated he will be proposing in this year’s budget for additional backup. The former Chief and I participated in an after event meeting with the County EOC and we made them aware of our concerns.

Commissioner Barger touched on Code Red and requested a way to partner with the Fire Department and Police Department to get the information out to Citizens to sign up for Code Red. This literature can be handed out at all the City events. Commissioner Witt suggested ways to get information out to people such as putting up a weather proof bulletin board when the police department is checking the roads they can have a print out and put it up on the bulletin board. The City can determine the best location to place these information boards. With the loss of cell towers and electricity, this can be an alternate way to get information out to people. We can inform them where to get food, what roads are open, what roads are closed and flooded. Any information that is important at the time.

Mr. Repp stated there is one landline phone in the Police Department, but City Hall is the EOC and we will have two landlines installed here this year prior to our next hurricane season.

Commissioner Barger inquired if the City does pre-hurricane season meetings with the department heads. Mr. Repp stated he and the Chief of Police attend the County Hurricane Meetings, but as a rule we do not do hurricane meetings here with the department heads. We work off the EOC Plan that was adopted by the Board, communicating with the staff so they stay updated. Prior to hurricane season, the Board was in agreement that all staff should attend a hurricane pre-meeting to ensure the disaster plan is up-to-date and everyone is informed.

Chief Theresa Tickle ~ BSL Fire Department

Chief Tickle commented the Fire Department does what they do every day, we make sure our trucks are all fueled, we have food in case we have to stay at the station, and we have our generators ready to go. We split our team into two so we could cover both sides of the City. We never lost a landline that I know of, our cell phones went out on Sunday like everyone else. The only thing we were lacking during the storm is the water rescue equipment as you know. We have received half the order so far. Commissioner Barger confirmed the City EOC states in Section B, EOC staffing includes the BSL Fire Department. Having the communication between all departments is essential to ensure

duplicated efforts are not taking place. We need to do a better job of following the Emergency Plan.

Acting Police Chief Rick Spencer, BSL Police Department


Acting Chief Spencer stated the Police Department mirrors the same steps as the Fire Department. We do the same preparations, fueling our vehicles, equipment check, we made the decision we would need officers to come in and shelter in place and stay here for the duration. There could have been better communication between the County and the City. Chief Shirley went to the County and requested supplies, etc. and that is when things started to happen. The staff we did have did an excellent job and we could not have asked for more.

Mr. Repp has expressed to the County EOC that they need to do better in their volunteer services after the event. Mr. David Mammay was the point of contact for the donations that started coming in. The problem was at the time we did not have anyone here from the County to help direct and coordinate all the efforts.

Commissioner Barger expressed the need for the City to obtain a high water vehicle for use by the Police Department and Fire Department. We all know the City is prone to flooding. Should people be cut off, having this type of vehicle would serve us well to be able to access people in this type of emergency. There are grants out there that can help us to obtain a vehicle of this type. Commissioner Barger also suggested the City sign up with the County for the Special Needs Registry which the City can use to help assist people with medical issues and more.

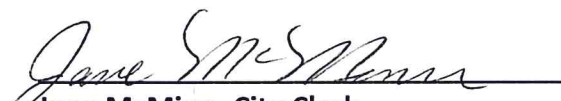
Mayor Caster thanked everyone for their participation and comments.

The Workshop was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

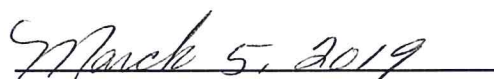


Craig M. Caster, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jane McMinn, City Clerk



Date