Brunswick County Board of Commissioners 5/1/17

OBSERVER REPORTING - League of Women Voters, Lower Cape Fear

<u>Highlight</u>: Funding approved to support Allied Health facility at Brunswick Community College. Facility programs will provide training for community health care needs including medical assisting, practical nursing and phlebotomy.

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on May 1, 2017, beginning at 6:00 pm and ending at 7:15 pm in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the David R. Sandifer Building in the County Government Center in Bolivia. All commissioners were present including: Randy Thompson, Martin Cooke, Pat Sykes, Mike Forte, Frank Williams. Staff present included the County Manager, Ann Hardy. An <u>agenda</u> was posted prior to the meeting. The Wilmington Star News was present.

Agenda discussion topics relevant to LWV positions/programs:

Of educational interest is the funding approval for an Allied Health Building at Brunswick Community College. Commissioners approved a memorandum of understanding to fund an Allied Health Building at the main campus of Brunswick Community College in Bolivia. This facility will house six Allied Health programs, including the college's associate degree nursing program and a physical therapy space. This includes funding to repurpose the college's Early Childhood Education Center to house Allied Health programs including medical assisting, practical nursing and phlebotomy. Discussants said these training programs and skills are required to support the needs of the growing community in Brunswick County. Concern of losing students to programs in surrounding communities was discussed as a reason to move forward with these programs.

Comment: LWV attendees included Sarah Hoss, Carol Roberts and JoAnne Stevenson. Prior to the meeting, we introduced ourselves to the commissioners. They welcomed us to the meeting.

<u>Observer</u>: JoAnne Stevenson <u>Date report submitted</u>: 5/5/17