



News Release

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Outgoing Commissioners Melvin, King Presented Order Of The Long Leaf Pine

FAYETTEVILLE – Ed Melvin and Billy R. King were presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine during today's Board of County Commissioners meeting. The two outgoing commissioners were also honored with plaques from the board for their long service. The men did not seek re-election earlier this year.

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is conferred by the Governor of North Carolina and is one of the state's most prestigious awards, given in recognition of a proven record of service to the state. N.C. State Sen. Wesley Meredith presented the awards on behalf of Gov. Pat McCrory. Meredith asked other members of the Cumberland County state delegation, Sen. Ben Clark, Rep. Elmer Floyd and Rep. John Szoka, to join him at the podium for the presentations.

Melvin served 14 years as a county commissioner. He was first elected in 1996 and served until 2000. He served from June 2003-December 2004 and served consecutively since his election in 2006. He served one term as chairman of the board of commissioners and one term as vice chairman. He has served on various boards and committees including the Cape Fear Valley Hospital System Board of Trustees, Cumberland County Emergency Planning Committee, Southeastern Economic Development Commission, Cumberland County Veterans Council, Social Services Board and many others.

Melvin is a native of Bladen County and attended Tar Heel High School and Lafayette Business College. He served in the U.S. Army from 1966-1968 and is a Vietnam Veteran. He is president of Tire World of Fayetteville and Ed's Tire and Auto Shop.

King served 24 consecutive years on the board, having been first elected in 1990. King served as chairman of the board four times and vice chairman four times. He has served on various boards and committees including the Cape Fear Valley Hospital System Board of Trustees, Mental Health Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Cumberland County Business Council, Board of Health and many others.

King has served as president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and has served on the National Association of Counties (NACo) board of directors. A native of Wilson County, King graduated from Elizabeth City State University and East Carolina University. He taught social studies in the public school system and has been a State Farm Insurance independent contractor and agent for more than 25 years.

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