The Northampton County Board of Commissioners met on November 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located in the JW Faison Building, 9495 NC Highway 305, Jackson, North Carolina, with the following present: Charles Tyner, Geneva Faulkner, Nicole Boone, Joyce Buffaloe and Kelvin Edwards.

Others Present: Charles Jackson, Angela Cahoon, Scott McKellar, Tanya Smallwood and Bill Blanchard.

Call to Order (Tab 1)

Mr. Tyner called the meeting to order.

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance (Tab 2)

Mr. Tyner called for a moment of silence and followed with an invitation for all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda (Tab 3)

Motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe to approve the agenda for November 4, 2019. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest (Tab 4)

Mr. Tyner read the conflict of interest statement and asked if any board member had a conflict. None was heard.

Lake Gaston 911 Community Task Force (Tab 5)

Sherry Herzing, Coordinator/Director, presented information to the Board on the 911 Community Task Force. She has been working with dispatchers and first responders in all five counties surrounding Lake Gaston. Her goal is to introduce the Lake Gaston 911 Community Task Force and educate the Board on some of the problems rural counties are experiencing.

Certification, North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds (Tab 6)

Mr. Tyner presented Theresa Scott with her certificate earned by the North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds.
AmeriHealth Contract (Tab 7)

Andy Smith, Health Department Director, presented the contract for AmeriHealth to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the contract with for AmeriHealth as presented. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Board of Health Appointments (Tab 8)

Following a further presentation from Mr. Smith regarding recommendations for appointments to the Northampton County Board of Health, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to accept the 3-year term appointments (effective January 2, 2020) for Scott Emory (Professional Engineer Representative), Bill Futrell (Public Citizen Representative), Marion Mizell (Professional Nurse Representative) and Ruth Moody (Public Citizen Representative). Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Animal Shelter Renovation (Tab 9)

Mr. Smith concluded by presenting the Board the bids from James T. Barnes Construction in the amount of $14,820.00 and Mason Builders in the amount of $10,142.17 for animal shelter renovations. A motion thereafter was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the bid submitted by Mason Builders. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.

Ad Valorem Tax Appeals (Tab 10)

Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, presented before the Board ad valorem real property tax appeals in the amount of $1,115.90. A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve the refunds for the reasons stated in the decision paper. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.

Ms. Allen also presented before the board ad valorem tax appeals motor vehicle refunds in the amount of $1,207.71 for 13 appeals. A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the refunds for reason stated in the decision paper. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.

Remount of 2010 Ambulance (Tab 11)

Charles Joyner, EMS Director, presented the Board with the following bids and requested that Northwestern Emergency to perform the repairs to remount a 2010 Ambulance onto a 2019 Ford E-450 cutaway van/cab chassis:

- Northwestern Emergency Vehicles, $83,345.00
- Southeastern Specialty Vehicles, $83,717.00
- Atlantic Emergency Solutions, $89,850.00
A motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to approve the bid for the remount of the 2010 Ambulance in the amount of $83,345.00 submitted by Northwestern Emergency Vehicles. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

**Budget Amendments (Tab 12)**

Angela Cahoon, Finance Officer, presented the following budget amends to the Board:
- No. 18, budget amendment reduction Health Department for $4,529.00;
- No. 19, update the budget based on state funding, DSS $86,068.00;
- No. 20, Youth Detention, Debt Service, Sheriff department did not budget for debt services $37,725;
- No. 21, adjust the budgeted for errors in salary and benefits for cooperative ext. $2,625;
- No. 22, remount of ambulance $100,000.00 (money is more than what is stated for repairs; that is so if additional monies are needed it will be in the budget).

A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve budget amendments as presented. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

**County Manager Comments (Tab 13)**

Mr. Jackson spoke in reference to the Strategic Plan and where it is located on the County webpage. Mr. Jackson further highlighted ongoing improvements being made to the Creecy School property to the gym floor and landscaping to make the location available to the citizens. In addition:

- Urged citizens to visit the Trackside Cafe and support the business.
- Encouraged citizens to visit the Library and spoke of the Fall Festival. May consider Pamela Britt, Branch Manager, Northampton Library to come and provide a quarterly report on resources and activities.
- Noted discussion with Superintendent Chamblee on how to help to move the County forward. Encouraged parental support.

**Citizens Comments (Tab 14)**

None.

**Board Comments (Tab 14)**

Mr. Tyner expressed concern with local media coverage and misunderstandings with the Edwards Beach project. Spoke of decisions made in reference to Lowes Distribution, NCCAR and Enviva by the previous Board.

Ms. Buffaloe announced the Northampton County Veterans Day Program and requested photos and items for decorations.

Mr. Edwards echoed the announcement for the Northampton County Veterans Day Program. He welcomed the opportunity to meet with citizens and hear their thoughts on how to move the County forward.
Ms. Boone thanked Mr. Tyner for being a fierce leader and Ms. Faulkner for her leadership. She thanked the citizens for supporting the County and addressed false accusations reported by the media. Announced the NC Care 360 program and resources available.

Ms. Faulkner address her concerns with false statements made by the media. She also encouraged citizens to join the County boards to help improve the community.

Mr. Tyner announced the new businesses coming to the area and encouraged citizens to vote in the upcoming election. He also announced plans to request state funding to reopen Odom Corrections Center as a central prison. He also encouraged citizens to take advantage of the revolving loan fund program.

Closed Session (Tab 15)

A motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to go into closed session pursuant to G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6)-Personnel, G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(3)-Attorney Client Privilege and G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(4) – EDC Report. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.

Adjourn (Tab 16)

There being no further business upon return from closed session, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Boone, to adjourn the Board. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted for approval, the 4th day of November, 2019.

Tanya Smallwood
Clerk to the Board