MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on September 3, 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, Joyce Buffaloe and Kelvin Edwards.

Others Present: Charles Jackson, Tanya Smallwood, Angela Cahoon, Bill Blanchard, Cathy Allen, Ronnie Storey, Joslyn Reagor, Tammie Piland, Shelia Manley-Evans and Scott McKellar.

Absent: Nicole Boone.

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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 Agenda (Tab 3):

A motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the agenda for September 3, 2019 with an amendment to include the consideration of a resolution in support of Medicaid expansion. 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 with any matter on the approved agenda. No conflict was reported.

HCC Early College Update (Tab 5):

Dr. Michael A. Elam, President/CEO of HCC Early College, provided an update to the Board on the progress of Northampton County students in the Early College Program.
Board Appointments, Home and Community Care Block Grant (Tab 6):

Joslyn Reagor, Director of Office of Aging, presented to the Board recommendations to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Financial Advisory Committee Board. The following citizens were recommended for two-year terms:

- Jean Bryant
- Linda Boone
- Pauline Deloatch
- Clara Parker
- Ruth Gee
- Brenda Lane
- Patricia Dickens

A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve the recommendations and appointments as presented. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion carried.**

Staff / Administration Updates (Tab 7):

Kristin Shotwell, Human Resources Director, provided staff updates to the board for E-911, Sheriff’s Department, Administration and Human Resources. New employee Sheila Watford was recognized and acknowledged.

Budget Amendments (Tab 8):

Angela Cahoon, Finance Officer, presented the Board the following budget amendments.

- DOT-Rural Transportation, $5,920.00
- Elderly & Handicapped, $6,312.00
- HCCBG-Aging and County Match, $3,941.00
- Insurance Proceeds, Repairs to Vehicle, $2,157.35
- HCCBG-Aging (GT Independence) and County Match, $41,222.00
- Lease and Rentals, Fund Balance Appropriated, $10,000.00

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

Ad Valorem Tax Appeals (Tab 9):

After a presentation by Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to allow the release or refund of the real property ad valorem tax appeals for August 2019 in the total amount of $2,357.71 and for the reasons stated in Ms. Allen’s decision paper. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion carried.**
After a further presentation by Ms. Allen, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to allow the release or refund of the motor vehicle ad valorem tax appeals for August 2019 in the total amount of $1,450.32 and for the reasons stated in Ms. Allen’s decision paper. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion carried.**

**Fire Department and EMS Squad Financial Assistance (Tab 10):**

After a presentation by Ronald P. Storey, Jr., Emergency Management Director, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve the respective contracts and applications for fire department and EMS services as presented with the exception of Conway/Severn EMS. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion carried.**

**Medicaid Expansion Resolution:**

Following a Board discussion on the matter, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to adopt and approve a resolution endorsing the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina. **Question Called:** All present voting yes. **Motion carried.**

**County Manager Comments (Tab 11):**

Mr. Jackson reported on the need for grass cutting services. The County made the decision to keep the services in house. Mr. Jackson noted he be going to Rich Square to address the town drainage issues. He emphasized that the County only works if we are all involved. He finally thanked the citizens for the calls and emails on how to improve the County.

**Citizen Comments (Tab 12):**

Shelia Evans requested information on ambulance services and water services in her area.

Tim Hollowell inquired as to which local newspapers the County posted its public notices.

David Brown reported his impression from the last meeting that citizens should accept everything from Commissioners instead of holding them accountable. Mr. Brown also had concerns of electricians and plumbers of Northampton County being referenced to as jack legs.

Tony Burnette inquired whether any County employees are board members of NCCAR and asked where was the outrage when the County was paying money for the Enviva plant and the Lowe’s Distribution Center dumping fees.

**Board Comments (Tab 12):**

Mr. Edwards:
- Recognized local farmers with the impending weather.
- Animal Shelter visit, Jackson, Garysburg and Gaston.
- Thanked DSS for their services in the community.
- Nation Suicide Prevention Day in Conway.
Ms. Faulkner:
- Thanked the citizens for coming out.
- Medical care coming back to the Woodland area.
- Purple Angel Blessing Boxes cost $40 to $50; provided by a nonprofit organization out of Seaboard. For more information, call 252-589-7770 or 252-548-1435.
- Emmanuel 9 Documentary Screening at Willow AME Church.

Ms. Buffaloe:
- Thanked the citizens for coming out.
- Thanked churches for their role in food distribution.
- Put out a request for expanded food distribution in other areas.

Mr. Tyner:
- Will be looking at bring back the Tourism Board.
- September 16, 2019 meeting will be in Woodland.
- Thanked the citizens in Seaboard and Rich Square for allowing the County to come to their towns.
- West Fraser water hookup to Seaboard is progressing.
- Working on the drainage issues in Rich Square.
- Working on housing developments in Jackson. Looking to benefit employees at Odom Prison, teachers, educators, County and State employees.

Closed Session (Tab 13):

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, that the Board enter into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§143-318.11(a)(6) [Personnel], (a)(3) [Attorney-Client Privilege] and (a)(4) [EDC Report]. Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Adjourn (Tab 12):

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

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of September, 2019.

[Signature]
Clerk to the Board
County Attorney