

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM – JUDICIAL CENTER
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019
9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT:

Mr. Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman
Mr. John D. Horton, Vice-Chair
Mr. Leroy Douglas
Mr. Andre` Lassiter
Mr. William F. Mitchell, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT WITH THE BOARD:

Ms. Loria Williams, County Manager
Mr. Juan Vaughan, Asst. County Manager
Dr. Renee Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board
Mr. Charles L Revelle, III, County Attorney

Ms. Maria R. Jones, Attorney ~ Revelle & Lee, LLP

Chairman, Ronald J. Gatling called the Meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and Rev. Bill Haddock, Pastor of Ahoskie United Methodist Church, Ahoskie, NC provided the Invocation.

Chairman Gatling thanked Rev. Haddock for the Invocation.

Chairman Gatling called for motion to add Memo #9160a Request for Resolution in Support of Healthcare For Eastern North Carolina and Funding for Vidant Health to the Agenda and to move Memo #9168, Request for Reappointment and Oath of Office of Hertford County Tax Assessor, to Closed Session.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to add Memo #9160a, Request for Resolution in Support of Healthcare for Eastern North Carolina and Funding for Vidant Health to the Agenda and to move Memo #9168, for Reappointment and Oath of Office of Hertford County Tax Assessor, to Closed Session.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW HERTFORD COUNTY EMPLOYEES

Human Resource Risk Management Director, Mrs. Keri Askew, presented the following new employees:

Employees Hired	PT/FT	Department	Type
Tiffany Moore	FT	Detention Cente	Detention Officer
Wylton Hampton	FT	Detention Cente	Detention Officer
Monica Young	FT	DSS	IMC I - work against
Jazzmine Payton-Harrington	FT	DSS	IMC I - work against
Angel Cherry	FT	Sheriff Dept.	Senior Administrative Assistant I
Lashaunna Godwin	FT	Sheriff Dept.	Deputy Sheriff
Mildred Gatling	PT	Aging	Nutrition Site Supervisor
Kimmi Beverly	PT	Public Buildings	Housekeeper
Jessica White	PT	EMS	EMT - Basic
Ashley Holloman	PT	Public Works	Water Maintenance Worker

All employees present were welcomed by the Board and thanked for making Hertford County Local Government home.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES NOMINATED FOR THE 3rd QUARTER & WINNER

Mrs. Keri Askew announced Mrs. Michelle White as the third quarter winner and presented the certificate to her. Mrs. White was recommended by Mrs. Martha Piland.

The Board congratulated and thanked Mrs. White for being awarded recognition as the employee of the third quarter.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FY 2019-2020

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to approve the DSS Purchase of Service Contracts for FY 2019-2020 as presented by Ms. Shel-wanda White, Administrative Office 1.

Vice-Chair Horton questioned if the contracts presented were budgeted. County Manager responded that the service contracts were part of the budget.

**HC DSS Purchase of Service Contracts
Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Vendor Information	Current Rate	New Rate	Rate Increase Y or N	Effective	
				FROM	TO
Carolina's Home Care Karen Rowe/Amy Bracy \$13.20/hour 224 West Main St. Ahoskie, NC 27910 Telephone-252-332-7754 Federal Tax ID-52- 2219053 Contract # N-46-057	Level II & III \$13.20/hour	\$13.75/hour	Y	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Choanoke Public Transportation Authority (CPTA) Pamela Perry PO Box 320 Rich Square, NC 27869 Telephone-252-539-2022 Federal Tax ID-56- 1369566 Contract # N-46-019	\$10.82 (local/One Way) Medical \$19.58 (Out of County/One Way) Medical	Billed in NC Tracks	Y	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Gates County Inter-Regional (GITS) Patrice Lassiter, Director 714 Main St. Gatesville, NC 27938 Telephone-252-357-4487 Federal Tax ID-56- 6000301 Contract # N-46-063	\$1.30 per mile as long as gas does not exceed \$3.50 per gallon, then rate will increase one (1) cent per mile each \$0.10 per gallon increase (For example, if gas is \$3.50 to \$4.00 per gallon, the cost will be \$1.30	Billed in NC Tracks	Y	7/1/2019	6/30/2019
Luther Culpepper, Attorney P.O. BOX 180 WOODLAND, NC 27897 TELEPHONE-252-587-3021 FEDERAL TAX ID-56-1897025	\$100.00 hr Not to Exceed \$10,000.00	SAME	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020

Vendor Information	Current Rate	New Rate	Rate Increase Y or N	Effective	
				FROM	TO
Jernigan Oil Company Michael Harrell, President 109 Rhue St P.O. Box 668 Ahoskie, NC 27910 Telephone 252-332-2131 Federal Tax ID-56-0795696 Contract # N-46-015	\$100,000/CIP Program \$100,000?LIEAP Program Not to exceed \$200,000	SAME Not to exceed \$200,000	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Mitchell Mclean, Attorney at Law P.O. Box 550 Ahoskie, NC 27910 Telephone-252-332-3115 Federal Tax ID-56-1949146 Contract # N46-001	\$195/hour Not to exceed \$15,000.00	\$225.00 Not to exceed \$ 15,000.00	Y	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Revelle & Lee, LLP Charles Revelle III P. O. Box 448 Murfreesboro, NC 27855 Telephone # 252-398-4171 Federal Tax ID-45-4118424 Contract # N-46-003	\$250/hour Not to exceed \$20,000.00	\$250/hour Not to exceed \$20,000.00	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2019
Roanoke Valley Adult DayCare ROGER EDWARDS, DIRECTOR 108 E FIRST ST P.O. BOX 127 WELDON, NC 27890 TELEPHONE# 252-536-2070 FEDERAL TAX ID-58-4201061 CONTRACT # N-46-062	\$33.07/Per Day (State Approved Rate) Not to exceed \$14,123.00	SAME Not to exceed \$14,123.00	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
The Law Offices of Tonza D. Ruffin, PLLC Tonza Ruffin, Attorney at Law P.O. Box 602 Windsor, NC 27983 Telephone # 252-794-5232 Federal Tax ID 30-156282 Contract # N-46-036	\$125/hour Not to exceed \$5,000.00	SAME	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020

Vendor Information	Current Rate	New Rate	Rate Increase Y or N	Effective FROM TO	
Randy Bratton, Spanish Interpreter 102 Overton St. N Ahoskie, NC 27910 Telephone-252-287-2070	\$35.00 an hour as needed basis	SAME	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Healthy Starts Medical Transportation INC. Lacemond Banks, Owner/Operator 3904 B Northwest Airport Dr. Wilson, NC 27896 Telephone-919-949-5541 Federal Tax ID-46-5435628 Contract # N-46-066	\$1.25 per mile as long as gas does not exceed \$3.50 per gallon, then rate will increase one (1) cent per mile each \$0.10 per gallon increase (For example, if gas is \$3.50 to \$4.00 per gallon, the cost will be \$1.30	Billed in NC Tracks	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020
Ahoskie House, LLC Charles E. Trefzger, Manager P.O. Box 2568 Hickory, NC 28601 Telephone- 828-261-7312 Federal Tax ID-56-2146853 Contract # N-46-065	\$1.50 per mile as long as gas does not exceed \$3.50 per gallon. This company will only transport Ahoskie House Residents only	Billed in NC Tracks	N	7/1/2019	6/30/2020

MURFREESBORO HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESENTATION

Mr. John Parker, Chairman of the Murfreesboro Historical Commission, shared with the Board as follows: 1) today is a give back day; 2) in appreciation of the support the commission received from the Board, the Murfreesboro Historical Commission will donate two School House Benches to be placed in the Courthouse for seating purposes.

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to approve for the Murfreesboro Historical Commission to donate two School House Benches as presented by Mr. Parker.

2020 DECENNIAL CENSUS PLANS & EXPECTATIONS

Mr. Kenneth C. Wilkins, US Census Bureau Partnership Specialist, provided the following information on the 2020 Decennial Census: census is about power and money; goal is to count everyone only once and in the right place; information obtained is kept confidential; and asked for the Board to consider adopting a resolution to endorse the 2020 Census.

REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HEALTHCARE FOR EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA AND FUNDING FOR VIDANT HEALTH

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution in Support of Healthcare for Eastern North Carolina and Funding for Vidant Health to be forwarded to NC General Assembly and the Governor as presented by County Manager Williams.

RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF HEALTHCARE FOR EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA AND FUNDING FOR VIDANT HEALTH

WHEREAS, the people of Hertford County and Eastern North Carolina have benefited tremendously from the healthcare provided by Vidant Health in partnership with the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University; and

WHEREAS, Vidant Health is committed to having high quality healthcare services accessible to all people in rural Eastern North Carolina, regardless of ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Vidant Health encompasses Vidant Medical Center in Pitt County, as well as community hospitals in Beaufort County, Duplin County, Edgecombe County, Bertie County, Hertford County, Chowan County and Dare County, in addition to Vidant physician practices throughout eastern North Carolina. These partners join together to improve the health and well-being of Eastern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget by the North Carolina Senate cuts Vidant Medical Center's Medicaid Reimbursement by approximately \$35 million beginning July 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, this would be in addition to the \$38 million annual cut to Vidant resulting from changes to the State Health Plan taking effect on January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, together, this \$73 million cut equates to about three percent of the annual operating budget, which is more than Vidant's operating margin for FY 2018. These cuts will eliminate 100% of the system's bottom line; and

WHEREAS, Vidant Health remains and will continue to serve as the primary affiliated teaching hospital for the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hertford County Board of Commissioners opposes cuts to funding for Vidant Health as the teaching hospital for the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, and urges the North Carolina General Assembly to keep in place funding necessary to assure access to high quality healthcare for all people in Eastern North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all counties in Eastern North Carolina that benefit from the services offered by Vidant Health and its partners are urged to adopt a similar resolution to send to their legislative delegations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be immediately sent to all members of the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor.

Adopted this the ___nd day of June, 2019.

HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman

ATTEST:

Renee Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board

APPROVAL OF LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN & RESOLUTION

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution Approving the Local Water Supply Plan as presented by Ms. Becky Turner, Public Works Manager.

**RESOLUTION
APPROVING LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) requires that each unit of local government that provides public water service or that plans to provide public water service and each large community water system shall, either individually or together with other units of local government and large community water systems, prepare and submit a Local Water Supply Plan; and

WHEREAS, as required by the statute and in the interests of sound local planning, a Local Water Supply Plan for Hertford County Rural Water, has been developed and submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that the Local Water Supply Plan is in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) and that it will provide appropriate guidance for the future management of water supplies for Hertford County Rural Water, as well as useful information to the Department of Environmental Quality for the development of a state water supply plan as required by statute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hertford County Board of Commissioners of Hertford County Rural Water that the Local Water Supply Plan entitled, 2018 Hertford County Rural Water Local Water Supply Plan dated May 17, 2019, is hereby approved and shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hertford County Board of Commissioners intends that this plan shall be revised to reflect changes in relevant data and projections at least once every five years or as otherwise requested by the Department, in accordance with the statute and sound planning practice.

Adopted this the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Signature: _____

Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman

ATTEST:

Renee Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board

REQUEST TO SCHEDULE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Request to Schedule the Budget Public Hearing for Monday, June 17, 2019 at 7:20 p.m.

RESOLUTION ADOPTION FOR VEHICLE SURPLUS PROPERTY CONVEYANCE TO HERTFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution for Vehicle Surplus Property Conveyance to Hertford County Public Schools as presented by Mr. Juan Vaughan, Asst. County Manager.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING
THE CONVEYANCE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY
TO
HERTFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, under G.S. 160A-280 a county may donate to another governmental unit within the United States, a sister county, or a nonprofit organization incorporated by the United States any personal property, including supplies, materials, and equipment, that the governing board deems to be surplus, obsolete or unused; and

WHEREAS, this same statute requires the county to post a public notice at least five days prior to the adoption of a resolution approving said donation; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, a Notice of Intent to Donate Surplus/Unused Property was posted at the Courthouse and County Administration Office Building 1.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hertford County Board of Commissioners that:

1. The 2012 Dodge Charger with VIN 2C3CDXAT8CH147917 is located at the Hertford County Sheriff's Office; and
2. Said vehicle is hereby donated to Hertford County Public Schools in accordance with G.S. 160A-280.

Adopted this the ___ day of June 2019.

HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman

ATTEST:

Renee Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF EMS FRANCHISED AGENCIES

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas the Board voted unanimously to approve continuing granting franchises for Bertie Ambulance, Med-Ex and White Oak to provide Basic and Advanced Life Support non-emergency transports, for Hertford County Emergency Services to provide Basic and Advanced Life Support emergency and non-emergency transports, and to continue granting a franchise for Gates County to provide ALA non-emergency paramedic service out of the hospital transports only, as presented by Mr. James R. Broglin, EMS Director.

TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL

Mrs. Sylvia Anderson, Tax Assessor, presented to the Board the appeal of Mr. Robert C. Parker and Ms. Anita P. Jones to recapture deferred taxes for the FY 2013 – 2016. She stated that Mr. Parker was removed from the program based on information her office did not receive in a timely manner for Pin # 5947-72-4021 - Murfreesboro, NC.

Mr. Robert C. Parker and Ms. Anita P. Jones presented their appeal stating that the documents were presented and that he did not receive notifications/updates of the status of his application from the Tax Assessors office.

Attorney Charles Revelle provided two factors for the Board to consider; 1) consider what might have happened to documents provided to the Tax Collector's office, 2) the burden on the taxpayer to present circumstantial evidence as to whether the plan submitted to the Tax Assessor's office was complete and timely.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board voted to approve the release of the tax payers recaptured deferred property taxes, for years 2013-2016, based on circumstantial evidence presented by the taxpayer that a Forestry Plan was submitted, or attempted to be submitted, on a timely basis, to the Hertford County Tax Office. The vote was as noted below:

Chairman Gatling	Aye
Vice-Chair Horton	Abstain (Aye)
Com. Douglas	Aye
Com. Lassiter	Aye
Com. Mitchell	Aye

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

County Manager shared her attendance at the Civic Engagement Day at RCCC with students from William Peace College, East Carolina University and UNC Chapel Hill Golden Leaf Scholars was a success. She will invite them to return for introduction to the Board in the near future.

Chair Gatling asked Mr. Cal Bryant to present his summer intern, Ms. Jasmine Bunch who is a 2017 Graduate of Hertford County High School and a rising Junior in the School of Media & Journalism at UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, to the Board. The Board congratulated Jasmine on her internship giving back to Hertford County.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to move to the Meeting of the Board of Equalization and Review.

MEETING OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of Tax Assessor, Mrs. Sylvia Anderson, for Mr. Carol Young's Tax Assessment.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and second by Com. Lassiter, the Board voted for the Board of E & R to adjourn from and discontinue accepting new appeals for the 2019 Assessments, as recommended by Tax Assessor Anderson; with the existing appeal of Wackenhut (GEO) to be heard later by the Board of E & R.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

The Board thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There were no additional comments from the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session to consult with the County Attorney.

Minutes of Closed Session are on file in the Office of the Clerk to the Board.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to return to Regular Session.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Mrs. Sylvia Anderson as Tax Assessor for a two-year term effective July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021 and for Mrs. Anderson to be sworn in at the June 17, 2019 Regular Meeting. Chairman Gatling stated in Mrs. Anderson's absence, the Oath of Office of the Hertford County Tax Assessor, as per NCGS 105:294, will be taken at the next Regular Board Meeting.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.