

**HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COMMISSIONER'S CHAMBERS/MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM – JUDICIAL CENTER**

**Monday, June 7, 2021 - 9:00 AM**

**Present:** Com. Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman, Com. John D. Horton,  
Vice-Chair Com. Leroy Douglas, and Com. Andre' Lassiter

**Absent:** Com. William F. Mitchell, Jr.

**Also Present with the Board:** Mr. David B. Cotton, County Manager, Dr. Renee  
Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board, Attorney Charles L. Revelle,  
III, County Attorney  
Attorney Maria Jones, Revelle & Lee

The following employees attended the meeting: Ms. Kimberly Turner, Human Resource/Risk Management Director, Mrs. Brenda Brown, DSS Director, Mrs. Renee Draper, Finance Director, Ms. Kelly Bowers, Economic Development Director, Mrs. Diedre Evans, Office of Aging Director, Mr. James Broglin, EMS Director, Sheriff Dexter Hayes and Ms. Sandy Brock-Justice, Tax Assessor and Ms. Crystal Askew, Asst. Tax Assessor.

Chairman Ronald J. Gatling called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM, and Com. Lassiter provided the Invocation.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Com. Andre' Lassiter and a second by Vice-Chair John Horton, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

- \* Approval of May 17, 2021 Minutes
- \* Approval of May 2021 Releases

**RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING  
May 2021**

		LEVY	VALUE	TAX
AHOSKIE TOWNSHIP	NAME	YEAR	RELEASED	RELEASED
MURFREESBORO TOWNSHIP				
WINTON TOWNSHIP				
Bill#3334-2020-2020	Morgan, James T Jr	2020	54,942	G01-\$46151
Taxpayer traded this boat for another boat in March of 2019, Billed on #3335				LLP-\$46.15

MANEY'S NECK TOWNSHIP				
ST. JOHN TOWNSHIP				
HARRELLSVILLE TOWNSHIP				


TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (2020 LEVY) \$54,942  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (2020 LEVY) \$507.66  
 TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY) \$  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY) \$  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE SITE 2020) \$  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATON 2020) \$  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE SITE 2019) \$  
 TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2019) \$

Respectfully submitted,  
 Tammy H. Eason  
 Tammy H. Eason, Tax Collector

\* Approval of Taxpayer Refund: Waters & Waters

1. \$197.50 to Waters & Waters vendor #1005 for overpayment on garnishment for Frederick Moore.

\* Approval of NCVTS: Ronald McSwain & Deborah Tucker



North Carolina Vehicle Tax System

NCVTS Pending Refund report

Report Date 4/19/2021

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Address 1	Address 3	Refund Type	Bill #	Status	Transaction #	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Create Date	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
MCSWAIN, RONALD WOOD	MCSWAIN, RONALD WOOD	PO BOX 632	AHOSKIE, NC 27910	Proration	0033706179	PENDING	2.16E+08	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0033706179-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	04/19/2021	G01	Tax	(\$78.06)	\$0.00	(\$78.06)
											C01	Tax	(\$75.27)	\$0.00	(\$75.27)
											C01	Vehicle Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
														Refund	\$153.33
TUCKER, DEBORAH C OS	TUCKER, DEBORAH C OS	249 VAUGHANS CREEK RD	MURFREESBORO NC 27855	Proration	0039937830	PENDING	72371098	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0039937830-2020-2020-0000-00	Tag Surrender	04/30/2021	G01	Tax	(\$115.00)	\$0.00	(\$115.00)
														Refund	\$115.00
														Refund	\$379.96
														Total	

## **INTRODUCTION OF JUNE 2021 NEW HERTFORD COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

Ms. Kimberly Turner, Director of Human Resources/Risk Management, presented the following employees

### **Hertford County Personnel Report June 2021**

<b><u>Employees Hired</u></b>	<b><u>PT/FT</u></b>	<b><u>Department</u></b>
Cheyenne Schmack	PT	EMS
Anthony Hoggard	FT	EMS
Jerry Gatling	PT	Solid Waste

Chairman Gatling and the Commissioners welcomed the new employees.

## **REQUEST APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE CURRENT & UPCOMING BOARDS & COMMISSIONS VACANCIES**

On a motion by Com. Leroy Douglas and a second by Vice-Chair John Horton, the Board unanimously approved to advertise current & upcoming boards & commissions vacancies as presented by Dr. Renee Fleetwood, Clerk to the Board.

## **REQUEST APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AMENDMENT #24 & #25**

On a motion by Com. William F. Mitchell, Jr. and a second by Vice-Chair John Horton, the Board unanimously approved the Amendment to Hertford County Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Amendment #24 in the amount of \$41,200.00 for State Authorization #8 for Low Income Energy Assistance Program to assist Hertford County citizens with energy bills.

**AMENDMENT TO HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR  
2020-2021**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the County of Hertford, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021:

**REVENUE:**

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
DSS	100063-418600	LIEAP REVENUE	\$ 41,200	
Total Changes in Revenue			\$ 41,200	\$ -

Net Change in Revenue	\$41,200
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**EXPENDITURE:**

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
DSS	104440-563001	LIEAP REVENUE	\$ 41,200	
Total Changes in Expenditures			\$ 41,200	\$ -

Net Change in Expenditures	\$41,200
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**Explanation:**

State Authorization #8 for Low Income Energy Assistance Program to assist Hertford County citizens with energy bills.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director                      Date

Amendment #      24  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posted: \_\_\_\_\_



On a motion by Com. William F. Mitchell, Jr. and a second by Vice-Chair John Horton, the Board unanimously approved the Amendment to Hertford County Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Amendment #25 in the amount of \$3,540.31.

**AMENDMENT TO HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the County of Hertford, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021:

**REVENUE:**

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
Sheriff	100060-413905	DOJ FBI OT	\$1,138.99	
Sheriff	100060-413905	DOJ FBI OT	\$2,401.32	
Total Changes in Revenue				\$ -
Net Change in Revenue			\$3,540.31	

**EXPENDITURE:**

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
Sheriff	104180-512100	Salary and Wages - Reg	\$1,138.99	
Sheriff	104180-512100	Salary and Wages - Reg	\$2,401.32	
Total Changes in Expenditures				\$ -
Net Change in Expenditures			\$3,540.31	

**Explanation:**

Amendment # 25

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Posted: \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF SUMMER INTERN RECOMMENDATIONS**

On a motion by Com. Leroy Douglas. and a second by Com. Mitchell, the Board unanimously approved the following summer interns and that additional interns may be added.as follows:  
Morgan Chadwick, Ky'Ree Pitt, Ashton Lassiter, Iris Simons, Demetrius Harris, Jaylen Jacobs, Deanna Boone and Nysa Freeman.

### **REQUEST APPROVAL TO CANCEL JULY 5, 2021 REGULAR MEETING**

On a motion by Vice-Chair Horton and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board unanimously approved to cancel the July 5, 2021 Regular Meeting.

### **PUBLIC HEARING HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET HEARING FY 2021-2022**

Mr. David B. Cotton, County Manager, addressed the Board addressing the Board highlighting the following: he is pleased to submit to the Board the Hertford County proposed budget for FY 2021-2022; the budget was prepared in accordance with NCGS § 159.7, the NC Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act; all funds within the budget are balanced, and all revenues and expenditures are identified for FY 2021-2022; and ultimately, this year's budget document presents the revenues and expenditures by function and purpose.

Additionally, Manager Cotton shared that the recommended budget which comports with the guidance of the Commissioners, is as follows: General Fund - \$27,050,902; Proprietary Fund Solid Waste - \$1,376,685; Proprietary Fund Northern Rural Water District - \$522,973; Proprietary Fund Southern Rural Water District - \$1,021,000; Proprietary Fund Tunis Wastewater District - \$32,543; other Governmental Funds - \$415,621; Total (Inclusive of all, net of transfers) Funds- \$31,227,724 and a tax rate of 84.0 ¢ per \$100 in valuation is proposed for FY 2021-2022.

Chairman Gatling opened the floor for public comments on the proposed budget. No public comments were given.

Vice-Chair Horton thanked Manager Cotton and his staff for the efficient operation of the local government funds.

### **REQUEST APPROVAL OF JCPC GRANT CERTIFICATION FY 2021-2022 COUNTY FUNDING PLAN**

On a motion by Com. Leroy Douglas. and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board unanimously approved the JCPC Grant Certification FY 2021-2022 County Funding Plan in the amount of \$126,736 available funding and a local match of \$12,077.00.

### **REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BADGE AND SALE OF SERVICE WEAPON TO A RETIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board approved the Resolution Authorizing Award of Badge and Sale of Service Weapon to a Retiring Law Enforcement Officer as presented by County Manager Cotton.

## RESOLUTION

### **AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BADGE AND SALE OF SERVICE WEAPON TO A RETIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Hertford, North Carolina, has determined that the County owns certain personal property, which has become surplus for the current needs of the County, to wit: the service weapon of Captain Jessie Fennell, who is a retiring law enforcement officer with the County; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 20-187.2 permits the County, upon request, to donate the badge by a law enforcement officer to said officer upon retirement; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 20-187.2 permits the County, upon request, to sell the service weapon to the retiring law enforcement officer upon securing such a permit required by law or without such permit if the weapon has been rendered incapable of being fired;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hertford County Board of Commissioners that a Glock 22, .40 caliber weapon with serial number BKWE904 is declared surplus to the needs of the County of Hertford; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to honor the service of Captain Jessie Fennell as a law enforcement officer, the County of Hertford authorizes Sheriff Dexter Hayes to donate the badge issued to said officer, and further authorizes the sale of the service weapon described in the Resolution, which is declared surplus, to said officer for the price of \$1.00, with the payment of said purchase price to be waived in consideration of this officer's loyal service to the citizens of Hertford County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the personal property described in this Resolution is surplus as of June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman  
Hertford County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Renee Fleetwood, NCCCC Clerk to the Board

Sheriff Dexter Hayes shared with Chairman Gatling and the Board that he will have Captain Fennell present at the upcoming Regular meeting for the presentation of the badge and service weapon.

### **REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF THE SALE OF LANCE JOYNER'S PORTION OF AHOSKIE AMBULANCE SERVICE**

On a motion by Com. Leroy Douglas. and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board unanimously approved the the Sale of Lance Joyner's Portion of Ahoskie Ambulance Service to Ms. Allison Slade, Co-Owner/Vice President, of Ahoskie Ambulance Service, EMT.

### **REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL FUND (UNASSIGNED) FUND BALANCE POLICY**

Discussion on the General Fund (Unassigned) Fund Balance Policy was tabled.



**REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OPIOID  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)**

On a motion by Com. Douglas and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board unanimously approved the Resolution Approving the Opioid Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) as presented by Attorney Charles L. Revelle, III.

**A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD  
APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENTS ON PROCEEDS RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION**

**WHEREAS**, as of 2019, the opioid epidemic had taken the lives of more than 16,500 North Carolinians, torn families apart, and ravaged communities from the mountains to the coast; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the opioid crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the total "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Hertford County have experienced significant negative impacts related to opioid abuse, - including but not limited to health care providers and facilities, law enforcement and EMS services, family crises, mental health and recovery services, addiction treatment programs, courts and criminal justice facilities, and social services programs; and

**WHEREAS**, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers and pharmaceutical distribution companies and hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and

**WHEREAS**, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to provide for the equitable distribution of any proceeds from a settlement of national opioid litigation to the State of North Carolina and to individual local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Local Governments and the State of North Carolina anticipate a settlement in the national opioid litigation to be forthcoming; and

**WHEREAS**, by signing onto the MOA, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, once a negotiation is finalized, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Hertford County and its citizens, to sign onto the MOA and demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid epidemic, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state and this county to help abate the harm; and

**WHEREAS**, the MOA directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Hertford County hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation, and any subsequent settlement funds that may come into North Carolina as a result of the opioid crisis. Furthermore, Hertford County authorizes the County Manager (or County Attorney) take such measures as necessary to comply with the terms of the MOA and receive any settlement funds, including executing any documents related to the allocation of opioid settlement funds and settlement of lawsuits related to this matter. Be it further resolved copies of this resolution and the signed MOA be sent to [opioiddocs@ncdoj.gov](mailto:opioiddocs@ncdoj.gov) as well as forwarded to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners at [communications@ncacc.org](mailto:communications@ncacc.org).

Adopted this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald L. Gatling, Chair  
Hertford County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Renee Fleetwood  
Clerk to the Board

(SEAL)



On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board unanimously approved to leave the Regular meeting and convene as the Board of Equalization and Review to hear taxpayers appeals.

### **CONVENING AS THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION & REVIEW TO HEAR TAXPAYER'S APPEALS**

Mrs. Sandy Brock-Justice presented the taxpayer appeal for Wackenhut Corrections Corp on PIN # 5997-92-6741.

Minutes of Board of Equalization & Review are on file with the Clerk to the Board.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Horton and a second by Com. Lassiter, based upon the evidence and the statements, presented at the May 3, 2021, Board of Equalization and Review Hearing, by Greg Bergdale representing Wackenhut Corrections Corp and by Bob Pearson of Pearson's Appraisal Services, which have been reviewed and considered; and considering the recommendation of Mrs. Sandy Brock-Justice, Hertford County Tax Assessor, that there be no change in value because the property was assessed at its highest and best use as an operating prison on January 1, 2021, the Board of Equalization and Review finds and orders that the true fair market value of PIN # 5997-92-6741, Wackenhut Corrections Corporation owner, as of January 1, 2021, is \$52,219,088 and that the origin \$52,219,088 appraised assessment is confirmed.

On a motion by Commissioner Lassiter and a second by Com. Douglas, unanimously approved to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review for FY 2021 and return to the Regular meeting.

### **EMS – PRESENTATION OF LUCAS CHEST COMPRESSION SYSTEM**

Mr. James Broglin, EMS Director, assisted by the demonstration of the LUCAS Chest Compression life saving device donated to the county by Nucor Steel, valued at approximately \$16,000.00. Mr. Broglin shared that the device is capable of performing CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) automatically instead of an EMT having to perform chest compressions manually.

The following NUCOR employees were present: Mamie Chamblee, Pat Quiney, Brandi Lynch, Christine Ebert, and Bill Vaughan.

### **OFFICE OF AGING REQUEST APPROVAL OF HOME & COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT FUNDING & CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT FUNDING**

On a motion by Com. Douglas and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board unanimously approved the Home and Community Care Block Grant Funding for \$30,003.00 as presented by Mrs. Deidre Evans, Hertford County Director of Aging.

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board unanimously approved the HDC5 Consolidated Appropriations Act Funding with \$21,072 in Total COVID-19 funding for Hertford County to use in home delivered meal services as presented by Mrs. Evans.

### **NCDOT SAFETY OF REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTIONS PRESENTATION**

Mr. James H. Dunlop, P.E., Congestion Management Engineer, Transportation Mobility and Safety Division, NCDOT sharing the following: superstreet benefits and capacities, safety reduction in crashes, vehicular conflict points, intersection crossing safety issues, and the US 158 Bypass – Murfreesboro.

Vice-Chair Horton and the Commissioners shared concern regarding the proximity of schools or some other means of reduction for the risk of incidence.

Mr. Dunlop responded that he is confident in a solution for the interchange in the near future.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

Manager Cotton commented he would reserve his comments for the Budget Work Session.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

The Commissioners made the following comments:

Chairman Gatling, Vice Chair Horton and Com. Douglas thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Com. Lassiter acknowledged Mr. Broglin and the EMT team for their professionalism and sensitivity shown recently when EMT services were provided to his step-father and thanked everyone for being in attendance.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

On a motion by Com. Douglas and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board unanimously approved to move to Closed Session as allowed under NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(3) 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. Lassiter and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board unanimously approved to return to the Regular session.

### **RECESS MEETING**

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board unanimously approved to recess the meeting.

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Approved: June 21, 2021

Hon. Ronald J. Gatling  
Chairman

Dr. Renee Fleetwood, NCCC  
Clerk to the Board