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

Monday, December 6, 2021

Present: Com. Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman, Com. John D. Horton,

Vice-Chair Com. Leroy Douglas, Com. Andre' Lassiter, and

Com. William F. Mitchell, Jr.

Also Present with the Board: Mr. David B. Cotton, County Manager, Dr. Renee Tyler,

Clerk to the Board, Attorney Charles L Revelle, III, County

Attorney

Attorney Maria Jones, Revelle & Lee, LLP

The following employees attended the meeting: HR Director Kimberly Turner, Economic Development Director, Ms. Kelly Bowers, and E-911 Director Felicia Gaston, Office of Aging Director Deidre Evans.

Attorney Charles L. Revelle, III called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. Invocation was provided by Rector Jeff Douglas, Pastor-Saint Thomas Episcopal Church Ahoskie, NC.

DESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Attorney Revelle opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Board for 2022.

Com. Leroy Douglas nominated Com. Ronald Gatling which was seconded by Com. William F. Mitchell, Jr.

Attorney Revelle called for the vote for Com. Gatling as Chairman which was as follows:

Com. Gatling: Aye Com. Horton: Aye Com. Douglas: Aye Com. Lassiter: Aye Com. Mitchell: Aye

Com. Gatling was declared Chairman.

Chairman Gatling opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Com. Andre' Lassiter nominated Com. John Horton which was seconded by Com. Douglas.

Chairman Gatling called for the vote for Com. Horton as Vice-Chairman which was as follows:

Com. Gatling: Aye Com. Horton: Aye Com. Douglas: Aye Com. Lassiter: Aye Com. Mitchell: Aye

Both Chairman Gatling and Vice-Chairman Horton thanked the Commissioners for their vote of confidence.

Chairman Gatling thanked Rev. Douglas for the Invocation and thanked Attorney Revelle for opening the meeting.

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Mitchell, the Board unanimously agreed to add Memo #9806 Opioid Litigation to the Agenda as recommended by Attorney Revelle.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and second by Com. Mitchell the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of November 15, 2021 Minutes
- Request Approval of November 2021 Releases

RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING November 2021

		LEVY	VALUE	TAX
AHOSKIE TOWNSHIP	NAME	YEAR	RELEASED	RELEASED
Bill#0000011011-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no	White, Meshuelle	2021		W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.				W02 \$33.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30th of the taxable year.	Fennell, Willie R.	2021		W01-\$95.00 W01-\$95.00
Bill#0000015838-2021-2021	Cherry, Hattie	2021		W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00

Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.			
Bill#000000934-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Simmons, Thomas Simmons, Lorrie	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill#0000001240-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Pearce, Richard S	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill#0000012567-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30th of the taxable year. MURFREESBORO TOWNSHIP	Early, Ruth Heirs	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill#000000-6148-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Thomas, Lloyd	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill#0000010419-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30th of the taxable year.	Parker, Phyliss D	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
WINTON TOWNSHIP			
Bill # 00000-20272-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Hoggard, Evelyn Burbage, Elbert Jr	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill #0000020144-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Edwards, Buffy	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00
Bill#0000019672-2021-2021 Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no electrical service during the period of July 1 through June 30 th of the taxable year.	Knight, Mary L	2021	W01-\$95.00 W02-\$95.00

Bill#0000015881-2021-2021	Pierce, John E.	2021	W01-\$95.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no	Heirs		W02-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1			
through June 30 th of the taxable year.			
MANEY'S NECK TOWNSHIP			
Bill#0000004211-2021-2021	Hill, Erma	2021	W01-\$95.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no			W02-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1			₩02-\$55.00
through June 30 th of the taxable year.			
Bill#0000018489-2021-2021	Pearce, Richard S.	2021	W01-\$95.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no			W02-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1			VV02-353.00
through June 30 th of the taxable year.			
ST. JOHN TOWNSHIP			
Bill#0000008152-2021-2021	Harrell, Laura	2021	W01-\$95.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no			W02-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1			1112 755.65
through June 30th of the taxable year.			
Bill#0000002599-2021-2021	Cherry, Thomas	2021	W01-\$95.00
Property is not habitable or is unoccupied with no			W01-\$95.00
electrical service during the period of July 1			
through June 30 th of the taxable year.			
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TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (2020 LEVY)	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (2020 LEVY)	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE SITE 2021)	\$1520.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATON 2021)	<u>\$1520.00</u>
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE SITE 2020)	\$
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2020)	<u>\$</u>

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

- Approval of NCVTS Refunds, Rebecca Alston, Caleb Forbes, Jennifer Letchworth, Cade Quattlebaum, and Jason Smith



INTRODUCTION OF NEW HERTFORD COUNTY EMPLOYEES

Ms. Kimberly Turner introduced the December 2021 New Hertford County Employees as follows:

Hertford County Personnel Report

December 2021

Employees Hired	PT/FT	Department
Bradford Vann	FT	Public Buildings
Kenmonte Perry	PT	Rural Water
Leslie Edwards	FT	Finance
Natalie Chapman	FT	Register of Deeds
Walter Mitchell	PT	EMS
Anetre Vaughan	FT	DSS
Cortay Stephens	FT	Sheriff
Carolyn Askew	FT	Detention Center
Antonio Gatling	FT	Detention Center

Ms. Turner shared with the Board that Leslie Edwards would attend the upcoming Board meeting.

Chairman Gatling and the Commissioners welcomed the new employees to the Hertford County Local Government Family.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Mitchell, the Board unanimously approved for Clerk Tyler to advertise the vacant Board and Commissions with the Roanoke Chowan News Herald.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 AMENDMENT #7.

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Vice-Chair Horton, the Board approved Amendment to the Hertford County Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Amendment #7 in the amount of \$179,063.01 as presented by Manager Cotton and attached.

AMENDMENT TO HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

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, 2022:

REVENUE:

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
Sheriff	100112-448500	Fund Balance Appropriation	\$2,560.00	
DSS	100063-418303	Adpt Assst Covid Rate - Rev	\$131.01	
DSS	100063-418701	LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASST.	\$64,805.00	
DSS	100063-419105	LIEAP CAA LIHWAP	\$68,699.00	
DSS	100063-419101	CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM	\$2,240.00	
DSS	100063-419103	LINKS TRANS CHAFEE	\$30,000.00	
DSS	100063-419104	LIHWAP WATER ADMIN	\$13,188.00	
	T	otal Changes in Revenue	\$181,623.01	s -

Net Change in Revenue	\$181,623.01
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EXPENDITURE:

Department	Account Number	Account Description	Amount Increase	Amount Decrease
Sheriff	104180-535200	Maintenance & Repair - Equip	\$2,560.00	
DSS	104440-569602	Adpt Assst Covid Rate - Exp	\$131.01	
DSS	104440-563001	LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASST.	\$64,805.00	
DSS	104440-569113	LIEAP CAA LIHWAP	\$68,699.00	
DSS	104440-569009	CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM	\$2,240.00	
DSS	104480-512702	LINKS TRANS CHAFEE	\$30,000.00	10.00
DSS	104440-569112	LIHWAP WATER ADMIN	\$13,188.00	
	Tot	al Changes in Expenditures	\$181,623.01	s -

Net Change in Expenditures	\$181,623.01
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Explanation:

Request to carry funds from FY21 to FY22 for boat purchase. Payment was returned for prior fiscal year before purchase was made.

There was an unexpected increase in the Adoption Asst Revenues due to Covid Rate Increase

Received Federal Fund Allocation of \$64,805.00 to ensure additional funding to cover all invoices for FY 22

Allocation #1 from Dec 2021 through May 2022 to assist clients with monthly water bills

Allocation #5 to ensure Crisis has the additional funding to cover all invoices for FY 22

Received funding for Foster Children

Allocation #1 from June 2021 through May 2022 to assist clients with monthly water bills

		Amendment #	-
Finance Director	Date	Approved:	
		Posted:	

REQUEST APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO HERTFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' ADVISORY BOARD ON AGING AND JOINT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On a motion by Com. Douglas and a second by Com. Lassiter the Board approved the appointment of to the **Hertford County Commissioners' Advisory Board on Aging** as follows:

Loraine Lassiter for a four-year term effective December 6, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025, and Dr. Brenda Chappell-Sharpe for a three-year term effective December 6, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2024.

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Lassiter, the Board approved the reappointment of Emily Winstead to the **Joint Community Advisory Committee** for a three-year term effective December 6, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2024.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF 2022 HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR HERFORD COUNTY OFFICE

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board approved the 2022 Holiday Closings for Hertford County Office to include a Veteran's Day Ceremony.



HERTFORD COUNTY OFFICES 2022 HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

New Year's Day	Friday, Dec. 31st
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, Jan 17 th
Good Friday	Friday, April 15 th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30 th
Juneteenth	Monday, June 20 th
Independence Day	Monday, July 4 th
Labor Day	Monday, Sept. 5 th

Veterans Day	Friday, Nov. 11 th
Thanksgiving	Thursday- Nov. 24 th & Friday- Nov.
	25 th
Christmas	Thursday, Dec. 22 nd Friday, Dec. 23 rd Monday, Dec. 26 th

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SETTING MEETING DAY FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' 2022 MEETING CALENDAR

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Mitchell, the Board approved the Resolution Setting Meeting Day for Board of County Commissioners' 2022 Meeting Calendar.





HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A RESOLUTION SETTING MEETING DAY FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the governing body of the County will, by resolution, establish a Regular Meeting date and notify the public of that day; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the County, except as may be otherwise required of them, may meet at any time for the purpose of attending to County business; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Hertford County, North Carolina has determined that the Board of Commissioners will meet on the first Monday of every month at 9:00 AM and the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM for their Regular Meeting for the purpose of conducting its official business; and

WHEREAS, it was further determined that any subsequent changes to those scheduled shall be made, posted and distributed in accordance with NCGS § 153A-40 and NCGS § 143-318.12.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Hertford County that:

- Regular scheduled meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be conducted the first Monday of every month at 9:00 AM and the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.
- Regular scheduled meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Hertford County Judicial Center unless otherwise noticed.
- A copy of the meeting schedule hereby adopted shall be posted in a location at the Hertford County Judicial Center, the Hertford County Website and on file with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners in the County Commissioners' Office.

Adopte	d this 6th day of December,	2021		
HERTI	FORD COUNTY BOARD	OF COMMISSIONERS		
By:				
	Honorable	, Chairman	ATTEST:	Dr. Renee Tyler. NCCCC Clerk to the Board



HERTFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2022 MEETING CALENDAR

DAY & DATE	TIME	MEETING							
Monday, Jan 3	9:00 AM	Regular Schedule							
Tuesday, Jan 18	7:00 PM	Rescheduled Meeting (Due to ML King, Jr. Holiday)							
Monday, February 7	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, February 21	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, March 7	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, March 21	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, April 4	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, April 18	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, May 2	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, May 16	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, June 6	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Tuesday, June 21	7:00 PM	Rescheduled Meeting (Due to Juneteenth)							
Tuesday, July 5	9:00 AM	Rescheduled Meeting (Due to Independence Day,							
Monday, July 18	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, August 1	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, August 15	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Tuesday, September 6	9:00 AM	Rescheduled Meeting (Due to Labor Day Holiday)							
Monday, September 19	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, October 3	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, October 17	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, November 7	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, November 21	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, December 5	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting							
Monday, December 19	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting							

It is the public policy of North Carolina and of Hertford County that the hearings, deliberations, and actions of this Board and its committees be conducted openly. Except as otherwise provided in these rules and in accordance with applicable law, each official meeting of the Hertford County Board of Commissioners shall be open to the public and any person entitled to attend such a meeting.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN QUALITY HOME STAFFING, INC. AND HERTFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

On a motion by Com. Douglas and second by Com. Lassiter, the Board approved the Contract between Quality Home Staffing, Inc. and Hertford County Department of Social Services effective December 15, 2021 as presented by Mrs. Brenda Brown, Hertford County Department of Social Services Director.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT FUND REQUISITION REQUEST FOR AHOSKIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

On a motion by Com. Douglas and a second by Vice-Chair Horton the Board approved the Project Fund Requisition Request for Ahoskie Elementary School Construction Project in the amount of \$1,081,933.26 as presented by Manager Cotton.

REQUEST FOR CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 20, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

On a motion by Com. Mitchell and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board approved the cancellation of the December 20, 2021 Regular Board Meeting with the stipulation that an emergency meeting would be called if necessary.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 – 2021 AUDIT PRESENTATION

Mr. Alan W. Thompson, CPA representing TPSA, which is Hertford County's independent auditing firm reported the following information: Hertford County received an "Unqualified Opinion" that the organization's financial statements are fairly and appropriately presented without any identified exceptions and in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP); total fund balance has increased by approximately \$3.0 million over the past two (2) fiscal years; it increased by approximately \$1.1 million over Fiscal Year 2020; the total property valuation within Hertford County has increased by \$118.7 million, which equates to a 6.7% increase in value denoting the increased value in real and personal property (including value appreciation, expansions and new construction); based on trend data, the County has experienced relatively flat to less than 1.0% annual growth suggesting that the growth in Fiscal Year 2021 is unprecedented in the aggregate; the County's tax collection is up by approximately \$500,000 over Fiscal Year 2020, which equates to a 3.1% increase; as a percentage, the following are the three largest revenue sources: Ad Valorem Taxes (53.47%), Local Option Sales Taxes (21.17%) and Intergovernmental Revenue (19.09%); as a percentage the following are the three largest expenditures: Public Safety - Sheriff's Office, Detention Center, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, Fire Marshal (31.01%), Human Services – Social Services, Health, Mental Health (21.82%), Education - Hertford County Public Schools & Roanoke-Chowan Community College (20.97%).

Chairman Gatling and the Board thanked Mr. Thompson for the audit report and congratulated Manager Cotton on the good audit.

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

County Manager Cotton commented that the Christmas Social would be December 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM and thanked Chairman Gatling and Com. Lassiter for securing the RCCC Gym to assist with the social distancing and presentations to County employees.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

The Commissioners commented as follows:

Com. Douglas thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Com. Mitchell wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Com. Lassiter thanked everyone for attending the meeting and commented may God bless everyone with a safe holiday, asked Manager Cotton to thank the Tax Department on how they are performing as noted via the audit report and encouraged the Department to not slow up.

Vice-Chair Horton commented requesting that Manager Cotton provide a report to the Board showing how the County look without the COVID Funding included with the audit report provided by the County auditor and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chairman Gatling thanked the Board for the vote of confidence reelecting him as Chairman, thanked the Board for what they do for Hertford County, thanked the staff for trying new things and for the service provided to County citizens, thanked Dr. Williams and her staff for being present at the meeting and providing excellent service in Hertford County.

Ms. Deidre Evans announced the Office of Aging Christmas events on December 17th.

Ms. Kelley Bowers shared she will be emailing an updated preliminary draft of the Economic Development Report to the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Douglas, 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 Com. Douglas, the Board unanimously approved to return to the Regular session.

OPIOID LITIGATION

On a motion by Com. Lassiter and a second by Com. Douglas, the Board unanimously approved a Resolution Approving the Janssen Settlement Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation as attached and presented by Attorney Charles Revelle, III.

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD APPROVING THE JANSSEN SETTLEMENT RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION

WHEREAS, Hertford County approved a Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (the NC MOA), on June 7, 2021;

WHEREAS, settlement negotiations have resulted in a proposed Settlement Agreement dated July 21, 2021 ("Janssen Settlement"), which will, upon approval by the various Governmental Entities, the Released Entities, and the Court, provide funds to effectuate the NC MOA;

WHEREAS, a Settlement Notice was emailed to Hertford County officials on November 4, 2021, which notice contained a Governmental Entity "Settlement Participation Form" and a "Settlement Overview", all of which have been reviewed by the Hertford County Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS, the Hertford County Board of Commissioners concurs that participation in the Janssen Settlement and execution of the Settlement Participation Form and the fulfillment of its terms is the most effective means of obtaining funds to help alleviate the effects of the opioid crisis in Hertford County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Hertford County hereby approves the Janssen Settlement related to the settlement of opioid litigation, and authorizes the County Manager, County Attorney, or Chair of the Board of Commissioners to execute the Settlement Participation Form, as well as any further documentation required to carry out the terms of the Janssen Settlement or the NC MOA, including but not limited to the execution of any general or Specific Releases required to receive funds. Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution and the signed Settlement Participation Form be sent to opioiddocs@ncdoj.gov, as well as forwarded to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners at communications@ncacc.org.

	, Chair
	Hertford County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:	
Renee Tyler	_
Clerk to the Board	
Clerk to the Board	

ADJOURN

	On	a motion	ı by	Com.	Douglas	and	a	second	by	Com.	Lassiter,	the	Board	adjourned	the
meet	ing.														

Approved: January 18, 2022

The Honorable Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman

Adopted this the 6th day of December, 2021.

Dr. Renee Tyler, Clerk to the Board, NCCCC