

October 10, 2018

The Martin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Martin County Governmental Center, Commissioners' Boardroom at 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina.

ASSEMBLY

Those in attendance: Chairman Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Vice Chairman Tommy Bowen, Commissioner Ronnie Smith, Commissioner Dempsey Bond, Jr., Commissioner Joe R. Ayers, County Manager David Bone, County Attorney J. Melvin Bowen, Clerk to the Board Jessica Godard and Finance Director/Deputy Clerk Cindy Ange.

Chairman Lilley called the meeting to order shortly after 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Ayers led the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Smith provided the invocation.

Chairman Lilley extended a welcome to everyone and thanked those attending for their interest and participation in County issues. Chairman Lilley recognized the following elected/appointed officials in attendance: Sheriff Tim Manning, Bear Grass Mayor Charlotte Griffin, Jamesville Commissioner Rachel Craddock, Williamston Commissioner Alton Moore, Parmele Mayor Jerry McCrary, Williamston Commissioner Ronell Rodgers, and Honorable District Court Judge Regina Parker. Chief Deputy Drew Robinson was also in attendance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

The following item was presented as a potential addition to the agenda:

- Add – Resolution Approving Rural Ready Sites Program Application

Commissioner Smith made the MOTION to approve the agenda as revised, with a SECOND by Vice Chairman Bowen. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Brianna Wright, 4845 Prison Camp Rd, stated her desire was to become acquainted with the community, elected officials and leaders, as she recently moved to Martin County from New York City. Ms. Wright stated she recently started a half-way home business called RHABI Homes, Inc. (Repent, Heal, and Build Inescapably). Ms. Wright stated her mission was to bring half-way homes to Martin County and felt this was a needed service. Ms. Wright explained she was not seeking money, but was simply looking for support and guidance.

The Board thanked Ms. Wright for coming to the meeting and sharing her information and for choosing Martin County.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman Bowen made the MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with a SECOND by Commissioner Bond. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

1. **Minutes** for September 12, 2108 Regular & Closed Sessions & September 26, 2018 Special Session
2. **Financial Report** for August 2018 included for informational purposes.
3. **Tax Assessor – Tax refund Requests – September 2018**

Parcel # 03-01201 – Mr. Kevin Warren requested a refund for year 2018 (1 year) for a solid waste availability fee that was paid on his deceased father’s parcel. Mr. Warren was charged with three cans when he only had possession of two cans. Per Martin County Landfill Ordinance, Mr. Warren was allowed up to two (2) years to be refunded/adjusted. There were only two dwellings on the parcel, hence only two solid waste availability fees. The approved refund amount would be \$172.00 for year 2018 plus additional fees for interest. Mr. Warren was requesting the refund be mailed to him since all of his taxes were paid up through 2018.

4. **Tax Assessor – Tax Relief Orders – September 2018**

Year Levy	Lname	Fname	Reason	Value	Total
2018	Bear Gras	Educational Foundation	Governmental ½ Exempt		1,616.06
2018	Bear Grass	Educational Foundation	Governmental ½ Exempt		1,683.40
2018	Cooper Peel	Properties LLC	Error in Landfill Fee		344.00
2018	Godard	Vester	Error in Listing	3,000	27.39
2018	Hall	Timothy R.	Error in Listing	1,145	10.47
2018	Lloyd Jr.	Major	Double Billed	1,440	13.16
2018	Moore Jr.	George H.	Error in Listing	1,800	14.94
2018	Pearsall	Angel	Error in Landfill Fee		172.00
2018	Stevenson Sr. Trust	Robert L.	Error in Landfill Fee		172.00
2018	Williams	Dennis Steve	Error in Landfill Fee		172.00
2018	Winstead	William	Error in Listing	1,821	15.12
2018	Howell	Marlon Kante	Situs Error		30.57
2018	Jones	Thelma Sullivan	Adjustment		57.68
2018	Meetze Jr.	Jacob Earl	Mileage		50.24
2018	Mid-East	Regional Housing Authority	Exempt Property		387.44
2018	Neal	Frank	Mileage		50.90
2018	Taylor-Mason	Geraldine Small	Adjustment		31.31
2018	Warren	Jeffrey Glen	SLVG or RBLT TTL		28.61
				Total	\$4,877.29

5. Tax Collector – Repost Payment to Correct Parcel – September 2018

Parcel # 06-01467 – Ms. Brenda Wynne, Administrator for the Estate of Hattie R. Wynn (1454 Everetts Rd.) accidentally paid taxes for the incorrect account and parcel of land (listed to Glen Eric Wynn on the website). Ms. Wynn was requesting that payment be moved to the correct parcel stated above and any overpayment created by this error be prepaid towards the 2019 taxes.

Payments made in error at no fault of the Tax Collector require Board approval. Tax Collector Blevins recommended that the correction be made as requested.

6. Tax Collector’s Report – August 2018

	Category	Aug-18	Aug-18 Y-T-D
Real Property	20	\$1,561,299.88	\$1,729,832.76
Personal Property	25	<u>730,237.24</u>	<u>736,719.03</u>
Total		\$2,291,537.12	\$2,466,551.79
Motor Vehicle	30	<u>168.30</u>	<u>441.88</u>
Total MV		\$168.30	\$441.88
All Total		\$2,291,705.42	\$2,466,993.67

7. ABC Board Requests Approval to Adopt Martin County’s Travel Policy

NC General Statute states that travel on official business by the members and employees of the local ABC boards shall be reimbursed pursuant to G.S. 138-6 unless the local ABC board adopts a travel policy that conforms to the travel policy of the appointing authority and such policy is approved by the appointing authority...” [NC General Statute 18-B-700 (g)(2)].

The Statute requires annual approval by the appointing authority, if the local ABC Board chooses to adopt the appointing authority’s travel policy.

The Martin County ABC Board requested approval, and the Martin County Board of Commissioners granted its request as part of the Consent agenda, the Martin County Travel Policy as its own for fiscal year 2018-19.

8. Clerk Report included for informational purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE (S)

DSS Director Letecia Loadholt introduced Child Protective Services Social Worker Julia Rease, Income Maintenance Caseworker Kendra Wooden, Income Maintenance Caseworker Verchele Brown, and Office Assistant Karmona Spruill.

Adult and Aging Services Director Charmaine Hardison introduced new full-time employee Carolyn Thompson, Nutrition Coordinator at the Williamston Senior Center.

The Board welcomed the new full-time employees to the Martin County workforce family.

PRESENTATIONS

Availability of U.S. Small Business Administration Loans or 9-month Deferments (for Existing Loans), Due to Hurricane Florence

Mr. Corey Williams, a Public Information Officer with U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Assistance, reported information regarding loans that were available to businesses and private nonprofit organizations, to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed property and/or assets, due to Hurricane Florence.

Mr. Williams stated the Small Business Administration (SBA) was able to help not only businesses, but home owners, renters, and non-profit organizations, during times of disasters. Mr. Williams stated loans were available for business owners, up to \$2 million dollars, for damaged property/inventory. Further, Mr. Williams stated despite minimal physical damage, the economic impacts from a natural disaster could be felt for an extended time. Those impacts could be felt by business owners, due to factors associated with increased business costs after a disaster, as well as potential negative impact on the community economy.

Martin County was eligible for SBA loans, following Hurricane Florence. Additionally, current borrowers from Martin County could request up to a 9-month deferment for an existing loan, due to Hurricane Florence. Mr. Williams explained working capital loans for business owners were available, in which business owners could borrow up to \$25,000 without pledging any collateral (signature loan only), and if any working capital was needed, those business owners could also borrow up to \$25,000 for any physical loss.

Mr. Williams explained homeowners were able to borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace any disaster damaged real estate and could borrow up to \$40,000 to repair or replace any disaster damaged personal property as a result of Hurricane Florence. Mr. Williams stated the interest rates on the loans for businesses was 3.675% and as low as 2% for home loans. Mr. Williams explained all loans through the SBA include a 1 year payment deferment. Additionally, nonprofit organizations (including faith-based organizations) could borrow up to \$2 million with a 1-year deferment, and a 2.5% fixed rate. Mr. Williams encouraged any citizen with any amount of damage to always register with FEMA, either online or by calling.

Mr. Williams reported that anyone with a current SBA loan in repayment (from a previous natural disaster like Hurricane Matthew or even Hurricane Floyd), could apply for a 9-month deferment on an existing loan.

Chairman Lilley thanked Mr. Williams for his comments and for sharing this valuable information.

Commissioner Smith reported he was in Jacksonville recently, volunteering with clean up from Hurricane Florence, and had the opportunity to talk with citizens in the area; there were many who were reluctant to apply for FEMA. Commissioner Smith further explained the difficulty in encouraging people to apply for assistance, while mentioning the possibility of delayed effects from natural disasters. Mr. Williams stated November 13, 2018 was the deadline to apply for assistance and encouraged all affected citizens to apply, regardless of the extent of damage

received. Mr. Williams explained even if someone was declined by FEMA, the decision could be appealed.

Mr. Williams reiterated the economic impact may linger for business owners, citing recovery periods could range from 3 months to 5 years. Business owners were encouraged apply for loans before all personal resources were exhausted.

Commissioner Bond stated one issue after Hurricane Florence was mosquitos, and inquired if any federal funds were available through FEMA for community spraying. Mr. Williams stated any kind of efforts such as emergency shelters, mosquito spraying, etc. would be a public assistance issue through FEMA.

Vice Chairman Bowen thanked Mr. Williams for his presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING

FY 2020 Transit 5311 CTP Grant

Commissioner Smith made a motion to enter a public hearing for the FY 2020 Transit 5311 CTP Grant, with a **SECOND** from Commissioner Bond. The Board **APPROVED** the motion unanimously.

DSS/Transit Deputy Director Frank Halsey explained Martin County Transit was a public transportation agency and received outside funding from multiple sources, including the Community Transportation Program (CTP), Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) and Medicaid Transportation. Martin County Transit was also supported financially through the collection of customer fares, sale of disposed transit vehicles, and county funding.

Deputy Director Halsey further explained the Board of Commissioners was holding a public hearing on Martin County's CTP / Section 5311 grant application for **2019-20**.

Deputy Director Halsey explained the Martin County Transit (MCT) grant application has two parts:

1. The **Administrative Budget** covered salaries and fringe benefits of management and office staff, drug and alcohol testing, first aid supplies, office materials, travel expenses, telephone and internet service, marketing, and other expenses associated with the running of an office. These administration dollars were 80% Federal, 5% State and 15% local share. The total amount requested for **FY 20** was **\$140,036** of which the **local share was \$21,005**. This did represent a \$14,977 decrease in Federal and State funding for the Administrative Budget from the previous year.
2. The **Capital Budget** request included:
 - New replacements of four MCT vehicles that had high mileage and age issues. Two of the four vehicles recommended for replacement had no ADA lifts on them for wheelchairs. (This would help the transit department's goal of 100% of the revenue vehicles having ADA lifts or ramps.)

- Replacement of all cameras, DVRs, and related video equipment on the thirteen vehicles in the fleet. (This equipment was reaching its end-of-life.)
- One new laptop computer for the MCT Deputy Director.

Deputy Director Halsey further explained these capital dollars were 80% Federal, 10% State and 10% local share. The total capital amount requested for **FY 20** was **\$333,980** of which the **local share was \$33,398**. The total estimated amount requested for the period *July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020* is:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u>	<u>LOCAL SHARE</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$140,036	\$21,005 (15%)
CAPITAL	\$333,980	\$33,398 (10%)
TOTAL PROJECT	<u>\$474,016</u>	<u>\$54,403</u>

The Board of Commissioners was asked to hold a public hearing on this item and:

1. Adopt the Public Transportation Program Resolution, to approve the grant application and authorization of the submittal of the application, as presented.
2. Adopt the Annual Conflict of Interest Policy, as presented.
3. Adopt and individually sign a copy of the Annual Conflict of Interest Policy (pertains to grants and procurement).
4. Designate the delegation of authority to sign these grant application documents.

No public comments were made during the public hearing.

Commissioner Smith inquired about the disposal of the vehicles that would be replaced, asking if other cities/towns/municipalities would be able to buy those vehicles. Deputy Director reported those vehicles may be transferred to another agency in the county, or may be sold. County Manager Bone stated there were some needs that could be met in Martin County, as other departments have expressed a need and interest in the vehicles.

Commissioner Bond made a MOTION to end the public hearing for the FY 2020 Transit 5311 CTP Grant, with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Commissioner Bond made a MOTION to approve the Public Transportation Program Resolution to approve the grant application and authorization of the submittal of the application, with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to adopt the annual Conflict of Interest Policy, with a SECOND from Commissioner Bond. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Chairman Lilley made a MOTION to designate the delegation of authority to sign grant application documents, with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM RESOLUTION
FY 2020 RESOLUTION

Section 5311 (including ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 and applicable State funding, or combination thereof.

Applicant seeking permission to apply for Public Transportation Program funding, enter into agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, provide the necessary assurances and the required local match.

A motion was made by *(Board Member's Name)* Commissioner Dempsey Bond, Jr. and seconded by *(Board Member's Name or N/A, if not required)* Commissioner Ronnie Smith for the adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, Article 2B of Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Governor of North Carolina have designated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) as the agency responsible for administering federal and state public transportation funds; and

1. WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will apply for a grant from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration and receives funds from the North Carolina General Assembly to provide assistance for rural public transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these transportation funds is to provide grant monies to local agencies for the provision of rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services consistent with the policy requirements of each funding source for planning, community and agency involvement, service design, service alternatives, training and conference participation, reporting and other requirements (drug and alcohol testing policy and program, disadvantaged business enterprise program, and fully allocated costs analysis); and

WHEREAS, the funds applied for may be Administrative, Operating, Planning, or Capital funds and will have different percentages of federal, state, and local funds.

WHEREAS, non-Community Transportation applicants may apply for funding for "purchase-of-service" projects under the Capital budget Section 5310 program.

WHEREAS, *(Legal Name of Applicant)* Martin County hereby assures and certifies that it will provide the required local matching funds; that its staff has the technical capacity to implement and manage the project(s), prepare required reports, obtain required training, attend meetings and conferences; and agrees to comply with the federal and state statutes, regulations, executive orders, Section 5333 (b) Warranty, and all administrative requirements related to the applications made to and grants received from the Federal Transit Administration, as well as the provisions of Section 1001 of Title 18, U. S. C.

WHEREAS, the applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the State of North Carolina required for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the *(Authorized Official's Title)** County Manager of *(Name of Applicant's Governing Body)* Martin County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to submit grant application (s) for federal and state funding in response to NCDOT's calls for projects, make the necessary assurances and certifications and be empowered to enter into an agreement with the NCDOT to provide rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services.

Martin County Area Transit System
Conflict of Interest Policy

In accordance with Board policy and related legislation, no employee, officer, agent, immediate family member, or Board member of the agency shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by Federal and/or State funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when any of the following has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for award:

- The employee, officer, agent, or Board member,
- Any member of his/her immediate family,
- His or her partner, or
- An organization that employs, or is about to employ, any of the above.

The agency's officers, employees, agents, or Board members will neither solicit nor accept gifts, gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to subagreements.

FY 2020 Delegation of Authority

Date: 10-Oct-18

I David Bone County Manager, Martin County
(Authorized Official's Typed/Printed Name) (Authorized Official's Title and Agency)

as the designated party for Martin County Board of Commissioners
(Grant recipient/Applicant Agency)

with authority to submit funding applications and enter into contracts with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and execute all agreements and contracts with the NCDOT Public Transportation Division, hereby delegate authority to the individual(s) filling the positions as indicated below:

Primary Designee: Janice Young, Assistant Finance Director
(Name and Primary Designee's Position Title)

Martin County
(Primary Designee's Agency)

Reimbursement Requests: Yes No

Budget Revisions: Yes No

Budget Amendments: Yes No

Period of Performance Extensions: Yes No

Other _____: Yes No

Alternate Designee #1: Cindy Ange, Finance Director
(Alternate Designee's Name and Position Title)

Martin County
(Alternate Designee's Agency)

Reimbursement Requests: Yes No
Budget Revisions: Yes No
Budget Amendments: Yes No
Period of Performance Extensions: Yes No
Other _____: Yes No

Alternate Designee #2: Frank Halsey, Deputy Director
(Alternate Designee's Name and Position Title)

Martin County DSS/Martin County Transit
(Alternate Designee's Agency)

Reimbursement Requests: Yes No
Budget Revisions: Yes No
Budget Amendments: Yes No
Period of Performance Extensions: Yes No
Other _____: Yes No

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Bids for Child Support Collection Contract Services

County Manager Bone recalled the Martin County DSS Board and Martin County Board of Commissioners had been considering the possibility of contracting with an outside agency for child support services for several months. Martin County sought proposals in the administration of the Child Support Enforcement program on a contract basis beginning in the 2018 – 19 fiscal year. The anticipated starting date for these contracted services was ninety (90) days after an awarded contract. Any award for the contract services would be made by the Martin County Board of Commissioners upon the recommendation of the Martin County Social Services Board.

County Manager Bone stated the Child Support RFP submittals were received on September 27th, 2018; two submittals were received – one from YoungWilliams, and one from Northeast Child Support Services, Inc. Additionally, County Manager Bone stated he and DSS Director Letecia Loadholt reviewed the two submittals. A copy of the evaluation form was given to each Board member for review.

County Manager Bone stated if the Board of Commissioners agreed to move forward with providing Child Support Collection services via contract services, DSS Director Letecia Loadholt and he recommended contracting with YoungWilliams.

County Manager Bone reported YoungWilliams has served a number of agencies in NC, including Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, New Hanover, Onslow, Pasquotank, Perquimans and Union Counties, as well as service to communities in other states.

County Manager Bone further explained YoungWilliams had a strong track record of meeting and/or exceeding standards. County Manager Bone explained additionally, in this scenario, current Martin County DSS Child Support staff (which includes funding for seven positions and a current staff of five individuals) would have the opportunity to be hired by YoungWilliams at the same rate of salary.

County Manager Bone stated YoungWilliams provided two proposals in its bid response. The first proposal involved the establishment of a YoungWilliams office in Williamston. The second option involved consolidation with the Beaufort County office. (Under Option #2, employees would work in Beaufort County and would travel to Martin County to meet with clients, attend court, etc.)

- **Option #1 – \$540,000:** YoungWilliams would establish an office in Williamston. Current employees retained by YoungWilliams would remain in the Martin County area and would not have to travel out of county for employment.
- **Option #2 – \$480,000:** Under this option, current employees would have to travel to the main office in Beaufort County. Employees would not be reimbursed for their normal commuting travel, but any work-related travel from the main office to Martin County would be reimbursed at the federal gas reimbursement rate. YoungWilliams was prepared to have employee representation in Martin County at least once per week or however often is necessary to serve the citizens. This option provided a reduced cost, as it is shared cost with Beaufort and Hyde Counties moving towards a regional model.

County Manager Bone stated the DSS Board had recommended Option #1. County Manager Bone recommends Option #2, which provides at least \$60,000 in annual savings to Martin County, as opposed to Option #1. Option #2 also provides more opportunities for additional efficiencies and savings. County Manager Bone highlighted that of the \$60,000 difference between Option #1 and Option #2 from YoungWilliams, part of that would be federal cost share, therefore making the local cost about \$20,000 less. If the board were to choose Option #2, that decision would be supported, as well.

County Manager Bone highlighted the bids presented from YoungWilliams were based on the current funded positions, which was 7 positions with 2 vacancies, and YoungWilliams would commit to hiring 7 employees. Moving forward, if the vacancies were not filled, County Manager Bone stated there could be an opportunity for negotiations to reduce initial cost and provide some savings. County Manager Bone stated contracting out the services would cost the county more than what it's paying now, with Option #1 representing an increase of \$96,000 and Option #2 a net increase of \$75,000. However, County Manager Bone explained there would be benefits of contracting out services, such as taking advantage of YoungWilliams' expertise in service.

Vice Chairman Bowen inquired the length of time the vacant positions had been open. DSS Director Loadholt stated one had been recently been vacated in September 2018, and the other vacated around July or August of 2018.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to accept the bids and consider Option #1 or #2 from Young Williams.

Vice Chairman Bowen made a MOTION to proceed with a contract with YoungWilliams to contract for Child Support Collection Services, with a SECOND from Commissioner Ayers. Commissioner Ayers noted the DSS Director and County Manager have done a lot of work to research the issue. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Commissioner Smith noted many counties were privatizing child support collection services. He questioned whether it would be possible to ever go back to a public entity, once privatizing; DSS Director Loadholt stated she had never seen that happen. Commissioner Smith stated he wanted to be as fair as possible to any affected employees.

Chairman Lilley noted the transition would only include a small part of DSS, as the contract would include only 7 positions out of approximately 68 total (in DSS). Commissioner Ayers asked how the current 5 employees were handling the work of 7 positions; DSS Director Loadholt noted some restructuring and reorganizing of caseloads, and current employees have started feeling the effects of the vacancies. DSS Director Loadholt explained to Vice Chairman Bowen that current employees could apply for any available position in DSS, just like anyone from the public. DSS Director Loadholt also stated a RIF (reduction-in-force) plan policy would be presented to the DSS Board for consideration, stating all employees could be hired at their same salary in another position in DSS.

County Manager Bone stated due to current adjustments of workload, DSS Director Loadholt would be working to determine an interim solution to ensure workloads were being handled appropriately by current staffing during the 90-day transition period.

Vice Chairman Bowen made a MOTION to proceed with Option #1 from YoungWilliams, with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Work Authorization #5 – Beacon Replacement at Martin County Airport

County Manager Bone recalled Martin County was notified this past spring it received a \$95,000 grant from the state for a beacon replacement project at the Martin County Airport. The grant would be 100% grant, and no local match is required because the project is a safety project. County Manager Bone explained airport beacons help a pilot identify an airport at night. The beacons are operated from dusk until dawn.

County Manager Bone stated the presented work authorization would authorize the County's airport consultant, W. K. Dickson, to proceed with the design, bidding and construction of the Beacon Replacement project.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to conditionally approve the work authorization for W. K. Dickson for the Beacon Replacement Design, Bidding, and Construction project, pending approval of the work authorization by the Division of Aviation.

Commissioner Ayers made a MOTION to approve "*Work Authorization #5 Martin County Airport (MCZ) Williamston, NC Beacon Replacement (Design & Construction)*" (*entered into these minutes by title reference*), with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Resolution Authorizing the Sale of County-Owned Real Property by Sealed Bids

County Manager Bone explained Martin County currently held titles to two parcels of land (Parcel # 09-00641 and Parcel # 07-01929) that were foreclosed on for delinquent taxes. The Board of Commissioners had already declared said parcels as surplus (on December 6, 2010). Tax Collector Christie Blevins was requesting the Board of Commissioners authorize the sale of the properties through the sealed bid process.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to approve the presented resolution that would authorize the advertisement and sale of these surplus parcels through the sealed bid process.

Commissioner Bond made a MOTION to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Sale of County-Owned Real Property by Sealed Bids, with a SECOND from Vice Chairman Bowen. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SEALED BID SALE

WHEREAS, Martin County owns two certain tracts or parcels of land in Martin County, North Carolina, more particularly described as follows:

TRACT NO. 1: The Martin County Tax Department identification number for the subject tract is 09-00641. That certain lot located in the Town of Hamilton, Hamilton Township, Martin County, North Carolina, on the corner of North South Street and West Slade Street, fronting 80 feet along West Slade Street and 105 feet along North South Street and bounded on the Northwest by West Slade Street, bounded on the Northeast by, now or formerly, Carolyn Goss, bounded on the Southeast by, now or formerly, Melanie Douglas, and bounded on the Southwest by North South Street. And being the same property conveyed to the County of Martin by Commissioner's Deed from Stephanie B. Irvine, Commissioner, dated August 17, 2010, of record in Book V-23, Page 529, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Martin County.

TRACT NO. 2: The Martin County Tax Department Identification Number for this tract is 07-01929. That certain lot and all other improvements thereon located South of the Town of Robersonville, Robersonville Township, Martin County, North Carolina, on the East side of N. C. Highway No. 903 in the vicinity of the Judy-Herbie Subdivision, and commencing at a PK nail set in the centerline of N. C. Highway No. 903, which PK nail is 140.6 feet North of the centerline of the culvert in a canal across N. C. Highway No. 903, thence South 88 degrees 00 minutes East 30 feet to an iron pipe on the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No. 903, which iron pipe is the place and point of beginning; running thence from said point of beginning North 04 degrees 05 minutes East 171.5 feet along the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No.903 to an iron pipe near pine tree; thence North 85 degrees 55 minutes East 205.0 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 04 degrees 05 minutes East 269.5 feet to an iron pipe in the canal; thence along a line computed as North 31 degrees 02 minutes West 90.3 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes West 165.0 feet to an iron pipe on the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No. 903 which iron pipe is the place and point of the beginning; and being the same lot containing 0.89 acre, more or less, of land shown on map entitled "Property of Charles W. Johnson & Peggy W. Johnson", prepared by Billy R. Leggett of Leggett Land Surveying, P.A., signed and notarized on July 22, 1986. And being the same property conveyed to the County of

Martin by Commissioner's Deed from Stephanie B. Irvine, Commissioner, dated May 4, 2010, of record in Book S-23, Page 538, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Martin County.

AND WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes § 160A-268 permits the County to sell real property by advertisement and sealed bid.

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MARTIN COUNTY RESOLVES THAT:

1. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the sale of the following described tracts of land by sealed bid:

TRACT NO. 1: The Martin County Tax Department identification number for the subject tract is 09-00641. That certain lot located in the Town of Hamilton, Hamilton Township, Martin County, North Carolina, on the corner of North South Street and West Slade Street, fronting 80 feet along West Slade Street and 105 feet along North South Street and bounded on the Northwest by West Slade Street, bounded on the Northeast by, now or formerly, Carolyn Goss, bounded on the Southeast by, now or formerly, Melanie Douglas, and bounded on the Southwest by North South Street. And being the same property conveyed to the County of Martin by Commissioner's Deed from Stephanie B. Irvine, Commissioner, dated August 17, 2010, of record in Book V-23, Page 529, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Martin County.

The above described Tract No. 1 is being sold 'AS IS, WHERE IS'.

TRACT NO. 2: The Martin County Tax Department Identification Number for this tract is 07-01929. That certain lot and all other improvements thereon located South of the Town of Robersonville, Robersonville Township, Martin County, North Carolina, on the East side of N. C. Highway No. 903 in the vicinity of the Judy-Herbie Subdivision, and commencing at a PK nail set in the centerline of N. C. Highway No. 903, which PK nail is 140.6 feet North of the centerline of the culvert in a canal across N. C. Highway No. 903, thence South 88 degrees 00 minutes East 30 feet to an iron pipe on the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No. 903, which iron pipe is the place and point of beginning; running thence from said point of beginning North 04 degrees 05 minutes East 171.5 feet along the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No.903 to an iron pipe near pine tree; thence North 85 degrees 55 minutes East 205.0 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 04 degrees 05 minutes East 269.5 feet to an iron pipe in the canal; thence along a line computed as North 31 degrees 02 minutes West 90.3 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes West 165.0 feet to an iron pipe on the Eastern right of way of N. C. Highway No. 903 which iron pipe is the place and point of the beginning; and being the same lot containing 0.89 acre, more or less, of land shown on map entitled "Property of Charles W. Johnson & Peggy W. Johnson", prepared by Billy R. Leggett of Leggett Land Surveying, P.A., signed and notarized on July 22, 1986. And being the same property conveyed to the County of Martin by Commissioner's Deed from Stephanie B. Irvine, Commissioner, dated May 4, 2010, of record in Book S-23, Page 538, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Martin County.

The above described Tract No. 2 is being sold 'AS IS, WHERE IS'.

2. The above described tracts of land are to be sold as a separate parcels with separate bids price given for the tracts of land.

3. The County will accept sealed bids for the properties until 12:00, Noon, on Monday, November 19, 2018. Bids shall be delivered to the office of the County Manager, Martin County Governmental Center, 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina.

4. At 12:00, Noon, Monday, November 19, 2018 all bids received shall be opened in public in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Martin County Governmental Center, 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina, and the amount of each bid recorded. The record of bids shall be reported to the Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

5. The Board of Commissioners will determine the highest responsible bidders for the tracts and will award or reject the bids at its regular meeting on December 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Bids will remain open and subject to acceptance until the Board of Commissioners awards the bids.

6. To be responsible, a bid must be accompanied by a bid deposit of Five Percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. A bid deposit may take the form of cash, a cashier's check, a certified check, or a surety bond. The deposit of the bidder to whom the award is made will be held until sale of the property is closed; if that bidder refuses at any time to close the sale, the deposit will be forfeited to the County. The deposits of other bidders will be returned at the time the Board of Commissioners awards the property to the highest responsible bidder.

7. In addition, to be responsible a bidder must be current on payment of all property taxes owed to the County.

8. The County reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time and the right to reject all bids.

Adopted on October 10th, 2018.

Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

Jessica Godard
Clerk to the Board

Resolution Concerning Protection of North Carolina Farmers

Chairman Lilley recalled at the September 12, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting, a resolution from the Polk County Board of Commissioners was included in the County Clerk's report. At that time, Commissioner Lilley asked for the resolution to be considered at the October 10th, 2018 Martin County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Chairman Lilley explained the proposed resolution would be an effort in showing support for farmers all across North Carolina. Chairman Lilley stated should this resolution pass, he would like copies of the resolution to be sent to the Governor, as well as North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to approve the presented resolution.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to adopt the Resolution by the Martin County Board of Commissioners to Protect North Carolina Farmers, with a SECOND from Commissioner Bond. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

**RESOLUTION BY THE MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TO PROTECT NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS**

WHEREAS, agriculture is a vital part of North Carolina’s economy, creating billions in economic activity, employing 17 percent of North Carolina’s workers and accounting for nearly 20 percent of the state’s economy; and

WHEREAS, 26 lawsuits have been filed in North Carolina against Murphy-Brown, a subsidiary of Smithfield Foods, asserting nuisance; and

WHEREAS, while the lawsuits name Murphy-Brown as a defendant, most of the farms affected by the lawsuits are independently-owned family farms who, despite operating their farms in a law-abiding manner, stand to lose their livelihoods as a result of the litigation; and

WHEREAS, during the trial phase of a recent case, the jury was denied the ability to conduct a site visit to experience first-hand the conditions complained of and after verdicts were reached, a gag order was entered preventing farmers and their neighbors from publicly discussing the conditions on their farms or the effects of the lawsuits on their farming communities; and

WHEREAS, the Martin County Board of Commissioners fear that if this verdict is not overturned, it will set a precedent with far reaching ramifications devastating to North Carolina’s agricultural economy, harmful to rural farming communities and will push hardworking family farmers into bankruptcy by hindering their ability to produce fruits and vegetables, raise livestock and seafood, and grow crops and grains.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Martin County Board of Commissioners does hereby support the Swine Farmers of Eastern North Carolina and believe that the agriculture industry is vital to the North Carolina economy and should be protected.

Approved this 10th day of October, 2018.

Elmo “Butch” Lilley, Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

Jessica Godard
Clerk to the Board

Martin County Courthouse Renovation Feasibility Study

County Manager Bone recalled at the September 12, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting, County Commissioners approved a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2019-23. County Manager further explained the objective of a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is to organize long-term capital needs in a manner to promote discussion regarding priority, feasibility, timing, potential costs, financing options and future budgetary effect.

County Manager Bone explained \$250,000 was included in the CIP for 2019-20 for courthouse security enhancements, namely converting the courthouse facility to a single point of entry for the public. County Manager Bone stated Martin County was the only courthouse in the 5-county judicial district that did not have one point of entry.

County Manager Bone stated Oakley Collier Architects had developed a proposal to analyze the options and develop cost estimates to create one point of entry for the courthouse. Oakley Collier Architects had proposed to develop the feasibility study for a lump sum amount of \$7,500. County Manager Bone stated the feasibility study would better prepare Martin County for consideration of this project in the development of the 2019-20 Budget.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to approve the proposal by Oakley Collier Architects in the amount of \$7,500.

Vice Chairman Bowen made a MOTION to approve the Oakley Collier Architects proposal, with a SECOND from Commissioner Smith. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Grant Application – NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant

County Manager Bone recalled Martin County had recently adopted a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The Rural Planning Organization (RPO) had recently adopted and endorsed the CTP, and the plan would next go to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) State Board in December 2018.

County Manager Bone stated one of the things the CTP addresses is not only vehicle and road needs, but also bicycle and pedestrian needs. County Manager Bone further stated the program would be a great opportunity to follow up on bicycle and pedestrian needs in Martin County.

County Manager Bone said the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Bike and Pedestrian Division was accepting applications at the time for Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grants. There was a 20% Local Match required, with NCDOT funding the remaining 80%. The estimated cost for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for Martin was \$45,000.

Further, County Manager Bone stated the proposed project would benefit Martin County, but could also be a plan that other towns could use, to develop their own grant applications/projects for bicycle and pedestrian needs. County Manager Bone stated should the grant application be approved, Martin County would be partnering with Mid-East Commission.

The Board of Commissioners was asked to authorize a Martin County application to the NC Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant program and adopt the presented resolution.

Commissioner Smith made a MOTION to authorize a Martin County application to the NC Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant program and adopt the resolution endorsing the application for Bicycle Planning Grant Funds by Martin County, with a SECOND from Commissioner Ayers. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

County Manager Bone added, to clarify for the public that should the grant be approved, the local share would be \$9,000.

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE APPLICATION FOR BICYCLE PLANNING
GRANT FUNDS BY MARTIN COUNTY**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes 136-211 enacted July 6, 2000, provides for the establishment of Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RPO's) to provide rural entities a cooperative and unified voice in project selection and funding and to enhance their involvement in integrated multimodal transportation planning; and,

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee is the duly recognized transportation decision-making body of the Mid-East Rural Planning Organization; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation has established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant which provides funding to projects that will result in comprehensive local bicycle and pedestrian plans; and,

WHEREAS, Martin County is committed to creating a comprehensive bicycle plan; and,

WHEREAS, Martin County sees this grant as an opportunity to help frame bicycle development patterns in infrastructure improvements, policy development, as well as helping shape education and outreach to the general community; and,

WHEREAS, it is expected that the total cost of the plan will be \$45,000 with the County providing a 20% match of funds in the amount of \$9,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED that the Martin County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and endorses the application to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the said funds to do the bicycle planning work.

Adopted: this 10th day of October, 2018

Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

Jessica Godard
Clerk to the Board

Resolution Approving Rural Ready Sites Program Application

County Manager Bone recalled in its March 2018 regular meeting, the Board of Commissioners approved the submission of a Rural ReadySites pre-application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce in the amount of \$1,126,600 for expansion of the gravity sewer system and the rehabilitation of the existing elevated storage tank at the Martin County Regional Business Park. The request was for \$1,013,940 in grant funds to be accompanied by a County match of \$112,660. The pre-application was submitted to NC Commerce on April 6, 2018.

County Manager Bone said the county was notified that a full application to the Department of Commerce was needed to proceed with the Grant application. The Martin County Board of Commissioners was asked to approve the submission of the Rural Ready Sites final application and accompanying resolution of support.

Commissioner Bond made a MOTION to approve the submission of the Rural ReadySites final application and accompanying Resolution Approving Full Application – Rural ReadySites Program Grant, with a SECOND from Vice Chairman Bowen. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING FULL APPLICATION RURAL READYSITES PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, Martin County is requesting grant funding through the Rural ReadySites program, administered by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, and;

WHEREAS, the grant funds would be used for the Martin County Regional Business Park Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Sewer Extension project, which would include the expansion of the gravity sewer system and the rehabilitation of the existing elevated storage tank at the Martin County Industrial Park, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed work would be beneficial to all existing tenants in the park, as well as any future tenants, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners requests a grant from the Department of Commerce through the County of Martin be made to assist the Martin County Regional Business Park Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Sewer Extension project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Martin County will administer this grant in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Commerce.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County will administer this grant through the County Finance Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant will be monitored quarterly to assure compliance with this proposal and the Department of Commerce regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the amount of the grant application will be \$1,013,940.

ADOPTED this 10th day of October, 2018.

Elmo "Butch" Lilley
Chairman

Jessica Godard
Clerk to the Board

Budget Amendment(s)

Budget Amendment #10

Finance Director Cindy Ange stated Budget Amendment #10 would allocate the \$7,500 that was needed to pay for the feasibility study proposed by Oakley Collier Architects, in reference to cost and estimates to create one point of entry for the courthouse. The feasibility study would better prepare Martin County for consideration of this project in the development of the 2019-20 Budget.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-10

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County, North Carolina, that the following amendments be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows.

	Increase	Decrease
General Government Buildings	\$7,500	

This will result in an increase of \$7,500 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide an increase in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Fund Balance	\$7,500
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Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board and to the Finance Officer for their direction.

MOTION by Commissioner Smith and SECONDED by Commissioner Bond to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 10th day of October 2018. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS / COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Smith shared information from his meeting with NCACC Risk Management Board the previous week. Commissioner Smith recalled one of the issues discussed at that meeting was the repayment of Medicaid money dispersed to individuals who were not eligible, as well as the financial repercussions accompanying such instances. Commissioner Smith noted the cost to the counties and the taxpayers for unwarranted Medicaid disbursements and how the

NCACC was working to devise a plan to protect counties in NC, which were a part of the Risk Management Pool.

Commissioner Smith also highlighted there were 11 major counties affected by Florence, and thus far there was about \$10 million worth of damage. Commissioner Smith stated our county was blessed; the employees of Martin County received the best service, and were well protected by the NCACC.

Chairman Lilley commended Commissioner Smith on his position and time dedicated to the Risk Management Pool.

Vice Chairman Bowen stated the DSS Board had been working on addressing errors/mistakes in DSS for quite a while, and he was confident DSS Director would be on top of any issues she became aware of. Commissioner Smith discussed issues with NC FAST, which were resulting in errors and mistakes. DSS Director Loadholt recalled such instances and offered to provide reports and data documenting NC FAST errors. Commissioner Smith stated he would forward Director Loadholt's information to the NCACC's research team, to assist with collecting data.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Smith made the MOTION to adjourn at 8:15 p.m., with a SECOND by Vice Chairman Bowen. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

The Martin County Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting would be Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room of the Martin County Governmental Center, 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina.

Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Chairman

Jessica Godard
Clerk to the Board