

September 13, 2023

The Martin County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Superior Courtroom at the Martin County Governmental Center, 305 East Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina.

ASSEMBLY

Present in the Boardroom: Chairman Ronnie Smith, Vice Chairman Dempsey Bond Jr., Commissioner Joe. R. Ayers, Commissioner Emily Biggs, and Commissioner David “Skip” Gurganus. County Manager U. James Bennett, Clerk to the Board Julia Rease, County Attorney Benjamin Eisner (via phone call), Finance Officer Cindy Ange were in attendance.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Biggs led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Gurganus provided the invocation.

Chairman Smith extended a welcome to all in attendance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Smith asked to make the following changes to the agenda:

- Add the “Collection of Annual Settlement” as Item #12 of the Consent Agenda,
- Move the “Jamesville Softball and Williamston Baseball Team Awards” from Presentations to replace Item 4 “Introductions of New Employees”,
- Move the “Advance Law Enforcement Certificate Awardee Ashley Stalls - Sheriff Tim Manning” from New Business to replace Item 4.
- Table the Presentation from the North Carolina Department of Information Technology - Nate Denny, Secretary of Broadband and Digital Equity,
- Move the “Martin County 4H Youth Delegate, Reagan Edge - NC Coop. Ext. Director Lisa Smith” item to #1 under Presentations,
- Add a Legislative Update from Chairman Ronnie Smith to the agenda as #2. Under Presentations,
- Add the Transit Resolution to the agenda.

Commissioner Biggs made the **Motion** to Approve the agenda with the stated changes, with a **Second** by Vice Chairman Bond Jr. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Smith opened Public Comments by asking the public to sign up for Public Comments if they did not have the opportunity, before taking comments from the comment listing.

Mr. Brent Roberson 2908 Lee Mill Road, Williamston, NC. “I am here today because I'm the president of the Martin County Chapter of Sleep In Heavenly Peace. It is a nonprofit organization that deals with beds. It's out of Twin Falls, Idaho. They build beds for needy kids across the country, from ages three to seventeen who don't have beds. On a national average, 6% of the kids

are sleeping on the floor. So anybody who's sleeping on the floor or sleeping with someone else, we give them a bed for free. May 6th was when we had our first bed built. This Saturday we built our 100th bed. We have delivered thirty-seven beds in Martin County and we have 16 kids on a waiting list right now. Our next build is going to be on October 14th. Congressman Don Davis is going to come and help build some beds.” Mr. Roberson stated that there were other state politicians going to the event. Mr. Roberson also invited everyone to build the beds on October 14, 2023 at 1834 Holly Springs Church in Williamston from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mrs. Sarah Hodges Stalls - 1125 Bobby Roberson Road, Williamston, NC - This week I prepared three requests for medical records from Martin General Hospital, one for myself, one for my husband, and one for my mother in law. Based upon the September 8th weekly hospital update published by Martin County Government, I attempted to take these requests to, and I quote from the text of the update, the East side of the hospital on Tuesday or Thursday between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm, in the quote. Upon my arrival yesterday, September 12th, a Tuesday at approximately 2:30 p.m., all gates were chained off and not a guard was to be found. I proceeded to call the County Manager's office. Ms. Rease seemed startled by the information I shared and offered to find out more and call me back within minutes. The response she delivered quickly, in which I do appreciate, was from Chairman Smith, not County Manager Bennett. His response provided no guidance or help and did not show any remorse for information proved not to be correct being put out in the public. It is frightening that we as citizens of Martin County cannot count on accurate information on how to move forward in this horrible situation. In my family alone, we're faced with trying to secure medical care for two relatives that cannot be without medical care. We have recently experienced having to leave the county for immediate medical care for a 93-year-old relative, my mother in law. We are making the best of this situation, simply because we have no choice. We deserve vetted, fact-based information to see us through this process. Thank you for your time.”

Chairman Smith stated that he did not usually respond, but he would like to answer Mrs. Stalls. Chairman Smith agreed that Ms. Rease called him and he passed Mrs. Stalls information on. It was reported that the county itself had nothing to do with the medical records. The only thing that could be conducted by the County was to reportedly, pass on information to the bankruptcy trustee. Chairman Smith added that the Bankruptcy Trustee was in charge of the guards, facilities, was the person who provided the medical record request forms, explained how the forms should have been filled out and where they should have been submitted. Chairman Smith stated that the County had nothing to do with records, delivering letters, and or delivery of messages. Chairman Smith stated that Mrs. Stall's information was passed to the Bankruptcy Trustee regardless of this.

Mrs. Stalls responded with due respect stating that the County published instructions on how to retrieve the medical records and the instructions did not work. Mrs. Stalls stated that she was simply asking for correct information on how to proceed. It was reported that Martin County Government published the medical record request instructions and she was bringing the matter to attention.

Commissioner Ayers commented that the public record disbursement was out of the County's hands, but the publication of the information was. Commissioner Ayers wanted to know why and

who in County Administration published the false information on Facebook of the County website to have the public to think that they could go to the hospital to retrieve medical records.

County Manager Bennett responded that the County had a team of attorneys and an attorney in Delaware who was working with the Bankruptcy Trustee and the judges. Manager Bennett reported that the instructions were shared with the County in effort in ensuring that the public received information. Manager Bennett reported that the information that was given to the County was believed to be factual and was still believed to be factual. Manager Bennett stated that the information was believed to be factual because it came from the attorneys. Manager Bennett talked about a meeting that was had to address as to what Mrs. Stalls referred to. Manager Bennett reported that he was told that the information came from the Bankruptcy Trustee and the County had no control as to whether or not the bankruptcy trustee or judge followed through with the instructions given to the County. Manager Bennett continued stating that he visited the hospital to speak with the security guard to see what had taken place with Mrs. Stalls and why the information was different from what was posted. Manager Bennett reported that there were others who were able to retrieve their medical records and was sorry if anyone else had the same experience as Mrs. Stalls.

Commissioner Ayers asked if the misinformation was taken down. Manager Bennett responded that a statement was added to the instructions stating that the information was requested to be posted by the Bankruptcy Attorney. Manager Bennett also stated that the attorneys advised that the instructions needed to be posted.

There was a discussion regarding the issue wherein Commissioner Ayers felt that the misinformation should have been removed regardless of what the attorneys and or Bankruptcy Trustee requested because the staff did not provide the service that was supposed to be conducted. Manager Bennett stated that a group called "R1" were in place at the hospital to respond to medical record request. Manager Bennett stated that there was information to be shared in closed session regarding the matter, the published information could be taken down at the pleasure of the Board, and asked what were the public supposed to do if they wanted to get their records, as there were individuals who were able to get their records. Commissioner Ayers commented that the misinformation did not do any good. Chairman Smith shared his experience of going to the hospital today, wherein security was questioned about the situation with Mrs. Stalls. It was reported that security guards were in place at the time and the information was passed to the trustee regarding Mrs. Stalls' situation.

This discussion continued with more information to be presented in Closed Session.

Dr. Dhruva Chawla, 1046 Cruz Street, Williamston, N.C. – "I had an announcement to make and this is more regarding the health situation that we're dealing with. So as you all know, on August 3rd, the hospital closed. This was unexpected thing, but this was not the end. The company that was running the hospital also had plans in mind to close all the clinics. These clinics, they have about 10,000 patients. They have the records. On October 5th, they have plans to shut down those clinics as well. We were all scrambling as to how we're going to provide the care after that. I was working at Martin General Hospital for the last 10 years, I'm proud to be a citizen of Martin County, I live in Martin County, I live just five minutes from here, my brother was also working

there, and he was there for the last five years. I'm an Internal Medicine Doctor. I work as a Nephrologist, which is a kidney doctor. I'm also a specialist in the care of elders, Gerontology. My brother specializes in Pulmonary and Internal Medicine and Urgent Care. We were offered jobs right from the day this news broke out." Dr. Chawla stated that he and his brother were able to have a house after coming to America 16 years ago and that they finally had something. Dr. Chawla expressed his gratitude for his community in providing he and his brother the opportunity to call Martin County home. Dr. Chawla stated that he felt responsible to ensure that he returned the favor by not accepting any jobs anywhere else. Dr. Chawla gave examples of jobs offered to him and his brother, Dr. Harsh Chawla. Dr. Chawla reported that he and his brother were committed to Martin General Hospital to the point that they were opening their own clinic. It was stated that the brothers had obtained documents needed to open the clinic, which included the medical records from the last 15 years. Dr. Chawla reported interest in facilities on Green Street and Medical Drive of Williamston as possible options for the clinic to be housed. A lease was being sought, but there were some financial challenges. An electric medical record was received from the same company that reportedly provided records at Martin General Hospital, Dr. Chawla had eight Martin General Employees willing to staff the clinic, and the clinic was planned to open on October 6, 2023.

Mr. Billy Leggett, 1528 Mill Inn Road, Williamston, N.C. – "I read on the public notice of the closing of the Lee Road Extension. I don't really have a dog in that fight other than being a land surveyor and having worked with the Department of Transportation. I know the Department of Transportation can delete maintenance on the road. That's not a problem. What we do have a problem with, that road has been opened to the public as a state maintained road. You have an issue with public access on the road and the only way you could deny public access to a road is doing a public meeting by the Board of Commissioners in the County the road is in."

Mr. Leggett made comments regarding the Public Hearing for the Unified Development Ordinance stating that the ordinance showed progress from the beginning of its making. The ordinance was commented to be very workable. Mr. Leggett's only concern as a surveyor was that he could adapt his business practice no matter what the regulations were. As a private individual, Mr. Leggett stated that the ordinance was presented in a public meeting as a way to address the needs of the County or roads that were being developed, being put in, or not maintained to improve Fire and Rescue access to properties. Mr. Leggett asked why the County was trying to regulate everybody who owned property on a currently state maintained road, which had to go through a full subdivision process. Mr. Leggett stated that he wanted to see if the board would consider expanding the exemption of the subdivision code.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Biggs made the **Motion** to Approve the Consent Agenda, with a **Second** by Commissioner Gurganus. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

Minute Approval –

August 1, 2023 Special Session

August 1, 2023 Closed Session

1. Financial Report – August 2023

2. Tax Assessor – Tax Refund Request – August 2023 - \$354.32
3. Tax Assessor – Tax Relief Orders – August 2023 – \$ 98,514.60
 - Please see agenda packet for relief order documents

4. Tax Collector’s Report – August 2023

	Category	August	8 -21 Y-T-D
Real Property	20	\$11,853.25	\$26,817.42
Personal Property	25	\$1,736.73	\$15,839.72
Total		<u>\$13,589.98</u>	<u>\$42,657.14</u>
Motor Vehicle	30	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total MV		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
All Total		<u>\$13,589.98</u>	<u>\$42,657.14</u>

5. Board Appointments/Reappointments

a. Southern Albemarle Association Delegates

The Southern Albemarle Association is an organization of six counties (Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Martin and Washington) that was established in 1935 to ensure our area as a safe place in which to travel, work and live through promoting better roads, bridges, waterways and airports. The organization advocates for transportation improvements in the region. Included was a list of names submitted by the Southern Albemarle Association:

2023 MARTIN COUNTY SAA ANNUAL MEETING DELEGATES

Ms. Charlotte B. Griffin	1136 Cherry Lane, Bear Grass, NC 27892
Ms. Lula Council	3262 Timberlake Road, Parmele, NC 27861
Mr. Wesley Beddard, President	MCC 1161 Kehukee Park Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mayor Tina Brown	P.O. Box 487, 109 South Main St., Robersonville, NC 27871
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Harrell	6641 Bear Grass Road, Bear Grass, NC 27892
Ms. Emily Biggs, Co. Comm.	1506 West Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mrs. Beulah Bennett	2440 Tar Landing Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. & Mrs. Don Grady	2006 Meadow Branch Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Dempsey Bond, Co. Comm.	221 Wildcat Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Tim Manning, Sheriff	305 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Ms. Tonya Leggett, Clerk of Court	P.O. Box 809, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. David ‘Skip’ Gurganus, Co. Comm	2036 Hollow Pond Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Ronnie Smith, Co. Comm	9242 US 64, Robersonville, NC 27871
Mr. James Bennett, Co. Manager	P.O. Box 668, Williamston, NC 27892
Mayor Ray Deans	104 Ayers Street, Everetts, NC 27825
Mr. Milton Bennett, Jr.	2994 Tar Landing Road, Williamston, NC 27892
Mayor Eddie Brown	409 West NC 11, Oak City, NC 27857

Mayor Craig Tucker	P. O. Box 215, Town of Jamesville, Jamesville, NC 27846
Mr. Joe Ayers, Co. Comm	P.O. Box 279, Oak City, NC 27857
Ms. Patricia Harris	1502 N. Market Street, Suite A, Washington, NC 27889
Mr. Dustin Willet	1235 Draper Drive, Parmele, NC 27861
Mr. Chase Conner	Martin TDA, 132 West Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Steve Biggs	Martin EDC, 415 East Boulevard, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Vann Rogerson	301 Carolina Avenue, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. John Chaffee	1020 Red Banks Road, Suite 202, Greenville, NC 27858
Ms. Kim Griffin	ROD Office, 305 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mayor Jerry McCrary	1065 James Street, Parmele, NC 27861
Mayor Joyce Whichard-Brown	106 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Ben Jones	406 West Barnhill Street, Everetts, NC 27825
Mayor Ervin Williams	305 North South Street, Hamilton, NC 27840
Mr. Win Bridgers, NCDOTPE	113 Airport Drive, Suite 100, Edenton, NC 27932
Mr. Brooks Braswell, NCDOTDPDE	113 Airport Drive, Suite 100, Edenton, NC 27932
NC Rep. Shelly Willingham	916 Hill Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27801
NC Senator Bobby Hanig	300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 629, Raleigh, NC 27603
Ms. Betty Jo Shephard	100 Coast Line, Rocky Mount, NC 27804
Mr. Reginald Speight	216 NE Nash Street, Suite B, Wilson, NC 27932
Mr. Trey Lewis	1694 East Arlington Boulevard, Suite B, Greenville, NC 27858
Mayor Michelle Davis	P.O. Box 13, Hassell, NC 27841
Mr. Eric Pierce, Town Adm.	P.O. Box 506, 106 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Dr. Dean McCall	P.O. Box 1181, 115 W. Blvd., Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Mitch Manning	P.O. Box 635, Robersonville, NC 27871
Mr. Bryant Buck, Director	MidEast, 1502 N. Market St., Suite A, Washington, NC 27889
Mr. Sam Singleton	1502 N. Market St., Suite A, Washington, NC 27892
Mr. Marshall Gill, NCDOTDEng	19210 US Hwy 64, Williamston, NC 27892
Dr. Michelle White, Supt.	Martin Co. Schools 300 N. Watts Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Andrew Kuhn, Town Planner	P.O. Box 506, 106 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Cameron Brady	P.O. Box 506, 106 East Main Street, Williamston, NC 27892
Mr. Chris Roberson, Town Manager	109 S. Main Street, Robersonville, NC 27871

The Board **Approved** the above reappointments as part of the Consent Agenda.

b. Airport Height Restriction Board

The Airport Height Restriction Board has 3 terms that would be expiring on 10/31/2023. Mr. Buck Davis, Mr. Veo Bunting, and Mr. Jesse Council are holding the current Board terms. It was recommended that the above listed members were reappointed for another 3-year term ending on 10/31/2026.

The Board **Approved** the above reappointments as part of the Consent Agenda.

6. New Road Name Request - Moon Glow Lane

A request had been submitted to the Tax Assessor's Office regarding a new road name for a parcel off Piney Woods Road. This parcel was listed to be in the Jamesville Jurisdiction and Fire Response area. Tax Assessor Melissa Phillips has compiled a packet that includes the initial request for the road name and responses from EMS, Fire, and Rescue agencies in the county.

The Board **Approved** this agenda item as part of the Consent Agenda.

7. Cedar Point Subdivision Request for NCDOT Secondary Road System

Property owners located in Cedar Point Subdivision requested the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to be added to the Secondary Road System. NCDOT has provided a request for the Board's approval. A signature page and of residents and a highlighted area map that would be affected was added to the agenda packet.

This Item was **Approved** by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda.

8. WK Dickson's Work Authorization #5 for Construction of the T-Hangar Taxilane & Apron project

Martin County received bids for the T-Hangar Taxilane & Apron project at the Martin County Airport on July 12, 2023 and the construction contract was awarded to Barnhill Construction Company for the base bid amount of \$1,036,572.90 at the August 9, 2023 County Commissioners meeting. WK Dickson has prepared their Work Authorization #5 (WA #5) for construction administration services for the project, with a total amount of \$177,351. The WA #5 scope has been reviewed and approved by the NCDOT, Division of Aviation (DOA) and DOA has initiated an Independent Fee Estimate (IFE). The IFE should be completed soon. Once complete, the IFE will either confirm that the WA #5 amount is within the anticipated cost range or will provide some recommended areas the County may want to negotiate with WK Dickson. The IFE could result in a decreased contract amount but will not increase the cost.

The current grant amount for the T-Hangar Taxilane & Apron construction is \$950,000 of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) grant funds. An additional \$300,000 of STIP grant funds is on the NC Board of Transportation's agenda for approval on September 7, 2023. The additional funds will be sufficient to cover the entire construction amount, as well as WK Dickson's WA #5 cost. The approval of the additional STIP funds will be confirmed prior to the Notice to Proceed for construction being issued.

This item was **Approved** by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda.

9. Fred Smith Company's Change Order No. 1 for the Parallel Taxiway Construction Project

The Martin County Board of Commissioners awarded the construction contract, in the amount of \$4,359,432, to FSC II, LLC dba Fred Smith Company for the Parallel Taxiway project at their February 9, 2022 meeting. More poor soils than anticipated were encountered during construction resulting in a construction contract overage. Change Order No. 1 will add \$238,196 to the construction contract to cover the additional construction cost. The change order will also 69

calendar days to the construction contract time. The Parallel Taxiway project is being funded 100% by federal FAA grant funds. The NCDOT, Division of Aviation (DOA) confirmed on April 19, 2023 that additional FAA funds will be provided to cover the additional construction costs.

This item was **Approved** by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda.

10. WK Dickson's Work Authorization #4, Amendment #2 for Additional QA Testing Services for the Parallel Taxiway Construction project

WK Dickson's Work Authorization #4 (WA #4) for construction services, in the amount of \$434,417, was approved by Martin County in February 2022. Amendment #1 was later approved in March 2022. There was no cost increase associated with Amendment #1. During construction, more poor soils were encountered than anticipated, which resulted in an overrun in Quality Assurance (QA) Testing costs. Amendment #2 will shift some remaining budget from the Full-Time Construction Observation item and will add an additional \$12,037 to cover the QA Testing cost overrun. The Parallel Taxiway project is being funded 100% by federal FAA grant funds. The NCDOT, Division of Aviation (DOA) confirmed on August 25, 2023 that additional FAA funds will be provided to cover the additional QA Testing costs.

This item was **Approved** by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda.

11. Clerk Report

INTRODUCTION TO NEW EMPLOYEES

Mr. Nathaniel Shaw was introduced as a Transit Driver of the Department of Social Services. Mr. Shaw was to start his new employment on September 1, 2023 and was a resident of Martin County, NC.

Ms. Deangela Williams was a resident of Williamston, NC and was introduced as a new Income Maintenance Caseworker with the Department of Social Services. Ms. Williams was to start her employment on September 5, 2023.

Ms. Candace Cooper began her employment with Martin County on August 14, 2023 as an Income Maintenance Caseworker and was reported to be a native of Tarboro, NC.

Ms. Pamela Baker was introduced as a Bertie County native who began as the new Soil & Water Conservation Part Time District Administrative Specialist on August 29, 2023.

Jamesville Softball and Williamston Baseball Team Awards -Human Resource Director Donna Zube

Human Resources Director Donna Zube stated her appreciation for Martin County in recognizing the Softball and or baseball teams almost every year, for their accomplishments. Human Resources Director thanked the teams, coaches, and family members for their endeavors. The Jamesville 8U Softball Team were given plaques and certificates for their 2023 season accomplishments in the

State Championships and the World Series in Florida. The Williamston 15U Baseball team was recognized for the accomplishments in the Tar Heel and the State Championship games with plaques and certificates.

The Coaches and Board of Commissioners made comments thanking the team members, family members, and supporters for all efforts made in the success of both teams.

2. Advance Law Enforcement Certificate Awardee Ashley Stalls - Sheriff Tim Manning

Sheriff Tim Manning presented an Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate to Ms. Ashley Stalls. Sheriff Manning stated that an Advanced Law Certificate required a lot of training, experience, and explained the point and hours needed to obtain the certificate. Ms. Stalls reportedly needed 23 points to obtain this honor. Sheriff Manning stated that Ms. Stalls had a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services with a Minor in Social Science, Master's Degree in Management and Leadership, Certified General Instructor, and 9 years' experience in Law Enforcement (5 years with the Sheriff's Office), and over 580 hours of Law Enforcement training for a total of 28 points and she only needed 23.

Members of the Board made comments and expressed their appreciation for Ms. Stalls and her endeavors to serve. Ms. Stalls expressed her appreciation for the support, the budget to attend training, and her appreciation for the Sheriff's Office in providing Law Enforcement with proper training.

PUBLIC HEARING –TRANSIT 5311 GRANT & RESOLUTION

Commissioner Biggs made the **Motion** to Enter Public Hearing – Transit 5311 Grant at 8:02 p.m., with a **Second** by Commissioner Gurganus. Motion was **Carried** Unanimously.

Transit Frank Halsey explained that 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)
- Rural State Operating Grant (RO-028)
- Medicaid Transportation
- Medicare Transportation
- CARES
- ARP

Martin County Transit was also supported financially through the collection of customer fares, sale of disposed transit vehicles, and county funding. Martin County submits applications and holds the required public hearings annually for the CTP program. The Board of Commissioners were being asked to hold a public hearing on Martin County's Community Transportation Program 5311 grant application for 2024-2025.

Community Transportation Program:

The Community Transportation Program (CTP), a combination of federal and state funds, provided the majority of funding for North Carolina’s rural transportation systems. The CTP application incorporated the following three programs into a single program / application:

- Non-urbanized Area Formula Program (FTA Section 5311)
- Rural Capital Program (Composed of three programs that have been consolidated and entitled “Consolidate Capital Call for Projects Program”)
- Human Service Transportation Management Program

The Section 5311 program was reportedly the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program. The Section 5311 program provided funding for public transportation projects serving areas that are outside of an urban boundary with a population of 50,000 or less. Funds could reportedly be used for capital, operating, planning or technical assistance projects. In preparation for submitting an application, each applicant must hold a Public Hearing on the proposed project to allow members of the community the opportunity to comment on public transportation needs and the grant application. Transit Administrator Halsey reported that a Conflict of Interest Policy needed to be signed by each Board member. The Martin County Transit (MCT) 5311 grant application had two parts:

1. The Administrative Budget covers 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 are 80% Federal, 5% State and 15% local share. The total amount requested for Fiscal Year 25 is \$155,096 of which the local share was \$23,264.
2. The Capital Budget request includes:
 - Two 20 foot LTV buses (replacements)

These capital dollars are 80% Federal, 10% State and 10% local share. The total capital amount requested for Fiscal Year 2025 is \$260,000 of which the local share is \$26,000. The total estimated amount requested for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 is:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u>	<u>LOCAL SHARE</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$155,096	\$23,264 (15%)
CAPITAL	\$260,000	\$26,000 (10%)
TOTAL PROJECT	<u>\$415,096</u>	<u>\$49,264</u>

Vice Chairman Bond Jr. made the **Motion** to Exit Public Hearing- Transit 5311 Grant at 8:08 p.m., with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Resolution Approving the Fiscal Year 2025 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*) _____ and seconded by (*Board Member's Name*) _____ 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

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 Purchase of Service budget, Section 5310 program.

WHEREAS, 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 Martin County Manager of Martin County 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.

I, Ronnie Smith, Board Chair do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Martin County Commissioners duly held on the 13th day of September 2023.

*Signature of **Ronnie Smith, Board Chair** – Martin County Board of Commissioners*

Commissioner Gurganus made the **Motion** to Approve the Resolution as stated with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** Unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING - UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

At 8:10 p.m., Commissioner Biggs made the **Motion** to Enter Public Hearing – Unified Development Ordinance, with a **Second** by Vice Chairman Bond Jr. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

Code Enforcement Director Jody Griffin introduced the matter and stated that staff from the Mid-East Commission were also in attendance to introduce themselves and explain the Unified Development Ordinance. The Mid East Commission reportedly worked with Code Enforcer Jody Griffin in this effort.

Mr. Joshua Hollis of the Mid East Commission Regional Council of Government stated that he and Mid-East Commission staff worked closely with Martin County staff in the making of the Unified Development Ordinance. The purpose of the ordinance was stated to combine different regulations and development related regulations within a single document. The focus of the ordinance was on Subdivision guidelines in manufacturing, selection of Mobile Home Parks, providing a structure to the flow of new developments within the county, allowing consistency and more regulating development systems.

The development ordinance was made to be user friendly and easy to follow. In organizing the current documents, regulations and guidelines were outgoing from broad to more specific. This was to provide clarity. Mr. Hollis stated that a lot of the language included in the ordinance was guided by North Carolina General statutes or was even required in certain individual sections or articles. Mr. Hollis mentioned two key points about the North Carolina general statutes requirements:

- Senate Bill 300 – referring to the criminal justice reform, which decreased the harshness of penalties
- Chapter 160 D - in reference to local planning and development regulations. Previously, this would have been chapter 153 A or 160 A, depending on the subject being a County or Town/City. Mr. Hollis stated many of the regulations within were rewritten into a single unified “jab”, which was 160 B.

Manager Bennett asked if the ordinance was posted online for viewing. Mr. Hollis confirmed that a draft ordinance was posted online for public viewing before being presented to the Board and there were questions. Manager Bennett asked if there were any public comments and Mr. Hollis

stated that there were questions forwarded to him by Code Enforcer Jody Griffin. Mr. Hollis stated that staff had not had the time to review the questions.

Chairman Smith referred to a summary of changes to be implemented into the ordinance. Mr. Hollis asked if the summary of changes could be adopted into the ordinance.

Public comments:

Mr. Billy Leggett asked what the changes were to the ordinance and Mr. Hollis stated that the following housekeeping items came to our attention after the final draft was submitted for the 9/13/23 agenda:

1. Replace the term “Registered Surveyor” with “Professional Surveyor.”
 - a. Sections 4.6.2, 6.3.2 & 7.9
2. Replace the term “Registered Engineer” with “Professional Engineer.”
 - a. Sections 7.4.10 & 7.9
3. Replace the term “subdivision plat” with “deed” in Section 7.4.7(h)
4. Remove subsections I and J from Section 7.4.7.
5. Replace the word “fifteen” with “thirty” in Section 7.5(A).

Commissioner Gurganus asked if Code Enforcer Jody Griffin if he was ok with the ordinance as he would be the person to administer the ordinance. Code Enforcer Jody Griffin responded that he was fairly good with the ordinance, but asked if Mr. Billy Leggett’s concern regarding exceptions was addressed.

Mr. Hollis stated that many of the concerns discussed by Mr. Leggett were addressed in the summary of changes. Mr. Hollis reported stated that there was a section of the ordinance requirements the exempt subdivisions and expedited subdivisions. It was stated that state regulations were implemented in regards to exempt subdivisions and stated what those requirements were.

Commissioner Gurganus thanked everyone who worked on the ordinance and stated commented that everyone did a great job.

Mr. Billy Leggett stated that his concerns were addressed and the ordinance would work well if implemented in the correct manner.

Code Enforcer Jody Griffin commented that Tax Assessor Melissa Phillips was very instrumental in the process of creating the ordinance and that Mr. Leggett’s concerns were helpful as well.

Chairman Smith thanked all involved in the creation of the ordinance as well and asked if there were further questions and or comments.

Commissioner Ayers asked Building Inspector Jody Griffin if he was comfortable with the ordinance because he seemed to be hesitant and asked if Mr. Hollis could repeat the amendments noted in the summary of changes. Code Enforcer Griffin stated that he agreed with the ordinance now that he knew Mr. Leggett s concerns were addressed. Commissioner Ayers was informed of the amendments.

At, 8:23 p.m. Vice Chairman Bond Jr. made the **Motion** to Exit Public Hearing – Unified Development Ordinance, with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Approval for the Unified Development Ordinance

Commissioner Gurganus made the **Motion** to Adopt the Unified Development Ordinance, with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INTENT TO CLOSE LEE ROAD EXTENSION

County Manager Bennett stated that in past meetings, some residents approached the Board about closing a portion of Lee Road Extension. The reasoning was due to disturbances made by individuals, wherein the property owners requested the closing of that portion of the road. The road was stated to be state maintained by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. A public hearing was required for this procedure as well as adoption to a resolution.

One of the property owners, Ms. Cindy Harrison, was in attendance and confirmed the request and the issues that were occurring on Lee Road Extension.

Mr. Billy Leggett stated that he understood the property owners request and why they were requesting it. Mr. Leggett suggested that the resolution include removal of public access, it would clear the title of the property. Chairman Smith agreed that this could be added to the resolution.

Tax Assessor Melissa Phillips stated that the resolution was adopted in the July 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting and the Public Hearing was the second step in the process. Tax Assessor Phillips stated that if there were no issues from the public, the resolution would be sent to the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Chairman Smith asked if the resolution could be amended and Tax Assessor Phillips responded that NCDOT was still paving Lee Road Extension, but were not going to maintain the road from the property owners land on back. Tax Assessor Phillips began to state what was needed to be done to amend the resolution and Chairman Smith stated that this could be conducted in house by the County.

At 8:32 p.m., Commissioner Biggs made the **Motion** to Enter Public Hearing – Resolution Approving the Intent to Close Lee Road Extension, with a **Second** by Vice Chairman Bond Jr. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

At 8:33 p.m., Vice Chairman Bond Jr. made the **Motion** to Exit Public Hearing – Resolution Approving the Intent to Close Lee Road Extension, with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Martin County 4H Youth Delegate, Reagan Edge - NC Coop. Ext. Director Lisa Smith

NC Cooperative Extension Director Lisa Smith stated that the North Carolina 4-H and North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service collaborate with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) on a multi-year initiative to increase youth involvement in county government. This initiative helps youth learn more about county government as well as how to become more involved in local decision-making. The event is sponsored and supported by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. This year's 4-H'er, Reagan Edge, attended Youth Voice as Martin County's delegate. This event was held on August 24-26, 2023 in Raleigh, NC. Ms. Edge presented a video to the Board and discussed activities such as Board games that were utilized to inform her about Local governments and how they work.

Vice Chairman Bond Jr. attended the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Conference and joined 4H Youth Delegate Edge in representing Martin County.

Chairman Smith stated that the purpose of the 4H Youth Delegates was to inform students to see how local governments were operated and what it was about. Chairman Smith thanked NC Cooperative Extension Director Lisa Smith and 4H Youth Delegate Reagan Edge on their participation.

NC Cooperative Extension Director Smith thanked the Board and thanked Human Resources Director Donna Zube for giving 4H Youth Delegate Edge a tour of all departments within local government.

Legislative Update – Chairman Ronnie Smith

Chairman Smith stated that he spoke with Representative Shelly Willingham regarding the state budget. Chairman Smith reported that there was a sudden stall in approving the state budget and it was unknown when the budget would be approved. There were reported issues with the passing of the budget due to Casinos and Medicaid Expansion amongst other things. The Rural Emergency Hospital Designation (REH) was included in the budget and the state budget needed to be passed to receive the REH designation.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Non-Profit Organization Deference of Annual Solid Waste Fee - Tax Assessor Melissa Phillips

Tax Assessor Melissa Phillips discussed a non-profit organization that requested a deference of the Annual Solid Waste Fee of \$195.00 for a building being used as an American Legion. The Non-profit organization stated that the American Legion was only used once or twice a month and

that they take any trash generated from events. It was reported that this matter depended on the adoption of the Unified Development Ordinance. If the Unified Development Ordinance was approved, any property owners operating a “livable structure” would be required to pay the Solid Waste Fee of \$195.00. Tax Assessor Phillips stated that there were other Non-Profits within the County that paid the Annual Solid Waste Fee.

Commissioner Gurganus stated that if all other Non-Profits were paying the solid waste fee, it was hard to make an exception.

Commissioner Ayers stated that he had a discussion about this matter, but the ordinance clearly stated

Commissioner Gurganus made the **Motion** to Deny the Request, with a **Second** by Vice Chairman Bond Jr. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

Budget Amendments

Chairman Smith stated that all budget amendments were to be voted on at the same time and Finance Officer Cindy Ange agreed before moving forward with the budget amendments.

Budget Amendment #8

Martin County has been awarded a \$76,362 grant from the NC Department of Public Safety under the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). IT Director Jeb Gardner plans to use this funding to implement and update security protection. This includes replacing all the firewalls used on our parameter network. Our current firewalls are end-of-life equipment which have inherent security risks. There is no County match for this grant.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-8

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, 2024.

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

	Increase	Decrease
General Government		
Data Processing	\$ 76,362	

This will result in an increase of \$76,362 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide an increase in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Restricted Intergovernmental	\$ 76,362
------------------------------	-----------

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 Gurganus and **Seconded** by Vice Chairman Bond Jr. to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 13h day of September 2023. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

For your information

		INC	DEC
Cybersecurity Grant	1100025 442100	\$ 76,362	
Cybersecurity Grant	1142100 549968	\$ 76,362	

Budget Amendment #10

At the August 21, 2023 meeting the County Board of Commissioners voted to hire Ascendient as a consultant to find an operator for Martin General Hospital. The contract with Ascendient requires the County to pay for services rendered by the hour, but provides an average range for this type of service from \$50,000-\$150,000.

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, 2024.

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

	Increase	Decrease
Administration		
Commissioners	\$ 150,000	

This will result in an increase of \$150,000 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide a decrease in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Fund Balance	\$ 150,000
--------------	------------

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 Gurganus and **Seconded** by Commissioner Ayers to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 13th day of September 2023. Motion was Carried Unanimously

For your information

		INC	DEC
Consulting Service - Hospital	1141100 519903	\$ 150,000	
Fund Balance Appropriation	1100090 499099	\$ 150,000	

Budget Amendment # 11

At the February 8, 2023 meeting the County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to direct the expenditure of opioid settlement funds to MTW Health Department in the amount of \$42,510. According to guidance given at that time, that resolution was sufficient to stand for a budget amendment to authorize the expenditure. However, new guidance has been provided by the UNC School of Government this month that requires opioid funds to be budgeted annually, and include the estimate of funds expected to be received that fiscal year.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-11

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, 2024.

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

	Increase	Decrease
Human Services		
MTW Health Department	\$ 42,510	
Reserve for Future Years		\$328,115

This will result in an increase of \$370,625 in the expenditures of the Opioid Settlement Fund. To provide a decrease in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Opioid Settlement	\$ 370,625
-------------------	------------

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.

For your information		INC	DEC
MTW Harm Reduction	1851000 569381	\$ 21,255	
MTW Naloxone Distribution	1851000 569380	\$ 21,255	
Reserve for future years	1851000 599300	\$ 328,115	
Opioid Settlement Funds	1800025 451200	\$ 370,625	

Finance Officer Cindy Ange asked that this Budget Amendment needed to be tabled until October due to the status of the state budget.

Budget Amendment #12

At the auditors request budget amendments for salary increases given after the fiscal year begins should be presented to the Board during the year instead of at the end of the year. Staff had been waiting to do an adjustment to the budget when it was clear that the department could not absorb the increase in the approved budget, which would be the end of the year. The Finance Department

and the County Managers Department require increases in the budget based on increases given in August that staff calculates will not be absorbed in the current budget.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-12

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, 2024.

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

	Increase	Decrease
Administration		
County Manager	\$ 8,998	
Finance	\$ 1,884	

This will result in an increase of \$10,882 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide a decrease in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Fund Balance \$ 10,882

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.

		For your information	INC	DEC
Salaries	1141250-512100		\$ 7,164	
Social Security	1141250 518100		\$ 445	
Medicare	1141250 518105		\$ 104	
Retirement	1141250 518200		\$ 926	
401K	1141250 518400		\$ 359	
Salaries	1141300 512100		\$ 1,500	
Social Security	1141300 518100		\$ 93	
Medicare	1141300 518105		\$ 22	
Retirement	1141300 518200		\$ 194	
401K	1141300 518400		\$ 75	

Commissioner Ayers asked if Finance Officer Cindy Ange could give an explanation of Budget Amendment #12. Finance Officer Ange reported that the budget amendment was in reference to salary increases within the County Manager and Finance Offices. Finance Officer Ange reported that the salary and benefit account lines would be increased.

Commissioner Ayers stated that the Board had just passed the budget and there was already a fairly good amount of an increase being requested. Commissioner Ayers asked Finance Officer Ange if she could give him more of an explanation as to why the budget amendment was being presented this early in the budget year. Finance Officer Ange reported that there were salary increases in the two departments. Commissioner Ayers stated that he did not remember approving any salary increases.

Commissioner Gurganus asked for confirmation that there was a 2% Cola increase that was a part of the budget packet. County Manager Bennett agreed. Commissioner Gurganus asked if that increase would have occurred in July. County Manager Bennett agreed. Commissioner Gurganus stated that this increase would not amount to \$8, 998.00 and asked where the other raise was. County Manager Bennett stated that it was in Finance. Commissioner Gurganus disagreed and stated that the Finance increase was \$1,889.00. Commissioner Gurganus asked where the \$8,998.00 increase for the County Manager come from, who approved it, and how it got approved as it happened since the budget workshop took place. Commissioner Gurganus stated that he did not get an answer in regards to the \$60,000 increase in the budget line. County Manager Bennett reported that the Sheriff's Office received a raise and Commissioner Gurganus stated that he did not care about the Sheriff's Office increases and was asking about this increase. Commissioner Gurganus asked who approved the \$8,998.00 increase and he assumed the raise was for County Manager Bennett. County Manager Bennett agreed and Commissioner Gurganus reiterated his question about the approval as he was not aware of the approval.

Chairman Smith stated that the budget amendment was being presented as a process to approve the increase. Commissioner Gurganus stated that a budget amendment occurred to account for monies that were already spent. Commissioner Gurganus asked if he was correct and Chairman Smith disagreed. Commissioner Gurganus stated he felt this increase was awarded 08/01/2023. Commissioner Gurganus noted salary increases given on 08/01/2021, 08/01/22, 12/01/2022, and cola raises. Commissioner Gurganus stated that there were additional monies in the budget that were question during budget conversations, but the answer to this question was never answered. Commissioner Gurganus stated at some point the County Manager received about \$14,000 in raises last year and he found this odd because he did not know anything about it, it was not presented to the Board, and was not reflected in the minutes. Commissioner Gurganus stated that it was his understanding that the County Manager's salary increases were approved by the Board. Commissioner Gurganus stated that he could not find a record of these increases and wanted to know how this happened as it was a lot of money.

Manager Bennett stated that the Board did not approve the Finance Department raises. Commissioner Gurganus stated that as long as it stayed within the budget, Manager Bennett could approve salary increases to those who reported to the County Manager. Commissioner Gurganus stated that if a raise were to exceed a budget line, the process to his knowledge was to bring it to the Board for approval. Commissioner Gurganus stated in the case of the County Manager, he reported to the Board. Commissioner Gurganus stated that he didn't say that County Manager Bennett gave himself a raise, but he was only trying to figure out how the County Manager received four increases without all Board members knowing.

Manager Bennett stated that this discussion was a personnel matter and another discussion spurred as to if the discussion about the County Manager's salary increases was public or closed. Chairman Smith stated that the discussion would not be continued in open session, as it was a closed session matter. County Attorney Benjamin Eisner was attending the meeting via phone and stated that this was a closed session matter at that point especially if there were allegations. Commissioner Gurganus debated this decision stating that he only wanted to know who approved the raises. Commissioner Ayers reported that there was a budget amendment that was presented regarding a

raise and there a question as to how the raise was approved. Commissioner Ayers stated that the Office of the County Manager reported to the entire board, not partial or individual members. Commissioners Ayers stated that there were two members of the Board that were unaware of the raises and that the raises happened right after the budget was approved. In addition, Commissioner Ayers reported that the money in budget amendment #12 had already been funded and asked why clarity could not be given.

County Attorney Eisner reported that general personnel policy question could be discussed in open session. A specific grievance, complaint, or other allegation, it would be a closed session.

Commissioner Gurganus reiterated his question regarding the person who approved the raise for the County Manager.

Chairman Smith stated that Budget Amendment #12 would be removed from the agenda and the Board would consult with the County Attorney in closed session.

Commissioner Ayers informed County Attorney Eisner that there was a concern as Chairman Smith wanted to lump all budget amendments into one vote and he felt Chairman Smith wanted to do so to slip in the salary increase.

Chairman Smith called for motions for budget amendments individually and asked that Budget Amendment #12 was tabled for August or October.

Commissioner Ayers reported that there was a note on Budget Amendment #12 that auditors had requested clarity.

County Manager Bennett stated that there was another budget amendment that would be voted on after closed session due to it being a closed session discussion.

CLOSED SESSION(S) - 1. N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3)Attorney-Client Privilege and 2. N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(5)Real Property Purchase/Contracts/Leases

Around 9:12 p.m. Commissioner Gurganus made the **Motion** to Enter Closed Session (s) - 1.N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (4) Industry/Economic Development, 2.N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (5) Contracts/Agreements, and 3.N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (6) Personnel, with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

At 10:38 p.m., Vice Chairman Bond Jr. made the **Motion** to Exit Closed Session(s) - 1.N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (4) Industry/Economic Development, 2. N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (5) Contracts/Agreements, 3.N.C.G.S § 143-318.11. (6) Personnel, with a **Second** by Commissioner Biggs. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Budget Amendment #9

In order to assist the 5 EMS squads that operate within the County with increase costs due to the closure of Martin General Hospital the County is adjusting the 2023-2024 appropriation to each squad.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-9

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, 2024.

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

	Increase	Decrease
Public Safety		
Rescue Squads	\$ 662,500	

This will result in an increase of \$662,500 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 Appropriation	\$ 662,500
----------------------------	------------

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 Gurganus and **Seconded** by Commissioner Biggs to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment to **start on October 1, 2023 on a quarterly bases**. Motion was **Carried** unanimously.

For your information

		INC	DEC
Fund Balance Appropriation	1100090 499099	\$ 662,500	
Jamesville Rescue	1143750 564100	\$ 140,000	
Robersonville Rescue	1143750 564200	\$ 160,000	
Williamston Rescue	1143750 564300	\$ 262,500	
Oak City Rescue	1143750 564400	\$ 50,000	
Hamilton Rescue	1143750 564500	\$ 50,000	

BOARD REPORTS / COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Manager Bennett thanked Vice Chairman Bond Jr. for bringing a 2023 Map Book back from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Annual Conference, which contained demographics for each county within North Carolina. Manager Bennett reported that a copy of the map book was also in the Board agenda packets.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, at 9:30 pm, Commissioner Gurganus **Motioned** to adjourn and Vice Chairman Bond Jr. **Seconded** the motion. The Board unanimously **Approved** the motion.

Ronnie Smith, Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

Julia S. Rease
Clerk to the Board