

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 15, 2019**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on April 15, 2019 with the following present: Charles Tyner, Geneva Faulkner, Nicole Boone, Joyce Buffaloe and Kelvin Edwards.

Others Present: Robert Murphy, Angela Cahoon, Scott McKellar, Cathy Allen, Kirk Rogers, Craig Ellison, Tameka Green, Ronnie Storey, Tammy Piland, Kristin Shotwell and Avery Davis.

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**Call to Order (Tab 1):**

Mr. Tyner called the meeting to order.

**Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance (Tab 2):**

Mr. Tyner called for a moment of silence and followed with an invitation for all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda (Tab 3):**

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the agenda for April 15, 2019, as amended, by revising Tab 19 to reflect a recess of the meeting rather than adjournment. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Conflict of Interest (Tab 4):**

Ms. Faulkner read the conflict of interest statement and asked if any Board member had a conflict with any matter on the approved agenda. No conflict was reported.

**Employee Benefits Matters (Tab 5):**

Tom Cheswick with Mark III presented the Board with an overview of the County's medical insurance options for the policy year beginning July 1, 2019 and the recommendation of the plan proposal submitted by CIGNA. Thereafter a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the CIGNA insurance plan proposal as presented, designate CIGNA as the provider of the County's medical insurance for the policy year beginning July 1, 2019 and authorize the County Manager to execute any documents necessary to initiate the coverage, subject to the approval of the County Attorney. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Tax Department Matters (Tab 6):**

After a presentation by Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to allow the release or refund of the April 2019 ad valorem tax appeals in the amounts and for the reasons in Ms. Allen’s decision paper. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Ms. Allen followed by presenting a position paper on a 2018 present use assessment appeal of Daniel L. Bryant as to Parcel 06-00875, after which a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone to table the Board’s consideration of this matter until the Board’s meeting on May 6, 2019 unless considered sooner. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Ms. Allen continued by presenting a position paper on a 2018 present use assessment appeals all involving lineal property transfers and pertaining to Parcel No. 05-02357, Parcel No. 05-02096, Parcel No. 01-01189 and Parcel No. 04-01619, after which a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe to approve the identified appeals. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**School Board Surplus (Tab 7):**

After a presentation by Robert Murphy, Interim County Manager, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to not pursue the purchase of two parcels of surplus real property offered by the Board of Education, the first being a part of Squire Academic Center in Gaston and the second being adjacent to the Northhampton County Schools Central Office in Jackson. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**MCNC Contract (Tab 14):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve a contract with MCNC, a North Carolina nonprofit corporation, for an interactive telecommunications subscription. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Finance Matters (Tab 15):**

After a presentation by Angela Cahoon, Finance Officer, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve Budget Amendment Nos. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**CenturyLink Building Entry Agreement (Tab 16):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve a building entry agreement with Carolina Telephone and Telegraph LLC d/b/a CenturyLink with the contract addendum as advised by the County Attorney. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Citizen Comments (Tab 17):**

Mr. James Williams of Seaboard expressed his concern about a ditch on Washington Street in Seaboard that was not draining and in need of cleaning.

Mr. Joe Moody of Seaboard referred to a criminal matter regarding land dispute that he would be approaching the District Attorney about.

**2017 County Audit Budget Amendment & Amendment to 2017 Audit Contract (Tab 9):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve Budget Amendment No. 26 increasing the contract amount for the FY 2016-17 audit by \$26,700. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

A further motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve an amendment to the 2017 audit contract with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. to adjust the original due date and the firm's fees. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2017 TDA Audit Schedule Modifications (Tab 10):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve an amendment to the 2017 audit contract for the Northampton County Tourism Development Authority with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. to adjust the original due date. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2017 Audit Presentation (Tab 8):**

Mr. Allen Thompson of the firm Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. appeared before the Board and presented the County Audit for the year ending June 30, 2017.

**2018 County Audit Budget Amendment (Tab 11):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve Budget Amendment No. 27 appropriating \$75,000 for professional fees for the FY 2017-18 audit. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2018 County Audit Contract (Tab 12):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve a contract with the firm Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. to conduct the FY 2017-18 County audit. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**2018 TDA Audit Contract (Tab 13):**

After a presentation by Mr. Murphy, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve a contract with the firm Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. to conduct the FY 2017-18 Northampton County Tourism Development Authority audit. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Board Comments (Tab 17):**

Ms. Boone thanked the Town of Seaboard and its Board for hosting the evening's meetings. She further reported on her recent attendance of the Medicaid Transformation Convention held in Durham in April.

Ms. Faulkner likewise thanked the Town and those present and expressed how Seaboard held a special place in her heart. She noted her continued concern about the local crime rate, the unsolved murders and missing persons. She concluded with a call to action for citizens to serve on local boards to help the County and their communities.

Ms. Buffaloe thanked they Town and her district for hosting the meetings. She reminded those present of the upcoming 2020 Census and the forthcoming availability of local jobs to help conduct the Census.

Mr. Edwards noted that he was happy to be back in his hometown. He reported that he had recently met with a number of County veterans and first responders and thanked both for their service.

Mr. Tyner concluded by stating that he was happy to be a part of this Board and that Northampton County is moving forward. He stressed that further economic development has been and will continue to be a primary goal of this Board. He thanked the citizens present for coming and listening.

**Closed Session (Tab 18):**

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§143-318.11(a)(6) [Personnel], (a)(3) [Attorney-Client Privilege] and (a)(4) [EDC Report]. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

**Recess (Tab 19):**

Upon return from closed session, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to recess the Board until April 17, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted the 15th day of April, 2019.



A. Scott McKellar  
County Attorney