

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 18, 2021**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on October 18, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room located in the JW Faison Building, 9495 NC Highway 305, Jackson, North Carolina, with the following present: Charles Tyner, Nicole Boone and Joyce Buffaloe.

Kelvin Edwards appeared remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Geneva Faulkner was absent.

Others Present: Andy Smith, Becky Turner, Robert Murphy and Scott McKellar.

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. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the agenda for October 18, 2021 as amended to delete the Consent Agenda (Tab 5) and to add a new agenda item after Tab 8 for an update on the Northampton County Youth Council. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Conflict of Interest (Tab 4):

Mr. Tyner 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.

Access East Annual Enrollment (Tab 6):

ReGina Moffett, Community Coordinator for Access East, Inc., appeared before the Board and reported on the open enrollment period from October to December for Medicare. Ms. Moffett will be at the JW Faison Center on Tuesdays during the enrollment period and encouraged the Board to spread the word. No Board action was taken.

Health Department Agreement (Tab 7):

Andy Smith, Health Director, appeared and presented a proposed contract with Pro Active Therapy of North Carolina, Inc. for the purpose of providing physical therapy services to the County's home health patients. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the contract as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

New Water and Sewer Rates (Tab 8):

Becky Turner, Interim Public Works Director, appeared and provided the Board with a preliminary review of new water County water rates that would be recommended in the future due to increasing water production costs. Ms. Turner noted that the County needs to collect at least \$64.50 per 5000 gallons to be eligible for future funding. A public hearing will be noticed in the future to start the process and the Board's formal consideration of the matter. No Board action was taken.

Youth Council Update:

Ms. Boone recognized Zamarieon Alston, a Conway native and student and Northampton County Early College, who presented the Board with an update on the formation and development efforts of the Northampton County Youth Council. The Council has approximately 35 members presently at the Early College and is looking to expand to other local high schools to give students a voice and to become engaged in their community. No Board action was taken.

Citizen Comments (Tab 9):

None.

Interim County Manager Comments (Tab 9):

Mr. Tyner reported that Barbara Williams, Interim Clerk to the Board, has been hospitalized and that Itia Robertson has been assisting while Ms. Williams is on leave. The next Board meeting on November 1 will include an update on many County projects being undertaken. He concluded by noting that the new senior program is coming along well.

Board Comments (Tab 9):

Ms. Buffaloe notified citizens that CDL training classes being offered at Halifax Community College. Halifax Community College will also be hosting a veteran's gala on November 13.

Dr. Edwards reported that an initial meeting of the Northampton County Animal Control Advisory Committee had been held and that he looks forward future development of the Committee.

Ms. Boone stated that college and university representatives would be present at Halifax Community College on October 29 for prospective college students and to contact Jennifer Welch-Jones at HCC for more information.

Mr. Tyner remarked that County tax bills are being mailed this week. He further noted that the Board of Education had decided to hire an outside investigator and questioned where the money

for this originated.

Closed Session (Tab 10):

A motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, that the Board enter 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.**

Adjourn (Tab 13):

There being no further business upon return from closed session, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to adjourn. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of October, 2021.

Scott McKellar
County Attorney / Acting Secretary