

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on February 7, 2022 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, Geneva Faulkner, Nicole Boone, Joyce Buffaloe and Kelvin Edwards (via Zoom).

Others Present: Doris Garner, Robert Murphy, Jaime Mason, Theresa Scott, Becky Turner and Scott McKellar.

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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. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the agenda for February 7, 2022 with the deletion of the proposed Consent Agenda. **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.

**Consent Agenda (Tab 5):**

This item was removed from the meeting's agenda and no Board action was taken on it.

**Public Hearing on Proposed Water Rate Increase (Tab 6):**

Mr. Tyner opened the public hearing and recognized Becky Turner, Public Works Director, who made a presentation on projected water and wastewater revenues and the need to increase current rates due to rising costs. The following citizens were then recognized:

Gary Elliott asked why the Enterprise Fund amount had decreased.

Patricia Tashima sought clarification on what the proposed rate increases would be. Ms. Turner responded that the current base residential water rate would be increased from \$19.50 per 1000 gallons to \$23.50 per 1000 gallons and the residential sewer rate would be increased from \$15 per 1000 gallons to \$18 per 1000 gallons.

Clinton Williams inquired as to the cost increases.

An unidentified gentleman sought clarification that the current water and sewer rates for farmers would not change. Ms. Turner confirmed the farm rates would remain the same.

Mr. Tyner then closed the public hearing. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the following new water and sewer rates effective March 1, 2022:

**Residential Water  
Northampton County Water Department**

Current Water Rate		New Rate	
Base Rate	\$19.50		\$23.50
Cost / 1000 Gallons			
1-1000	\$5.00	\$24.50	\$6.00 \$29.50
1001-2	\$5.00	\$29.50	\$6.00 \$35.50
2001-3	\$5.00	\$34.50	\$7.50 \$43.00
3001-4	\$5.00	\$39.50	\$10.75 \$53.75
4001-5	\$5.00	\$44.50	\$10.75 \$64.50
5001-6	\$5.00	\$49.50	\$10.75 \$75.25
6001-7	\$5.00	\$54.50	\$10.75 \$86.00
7001-8	\$5.00	\$59.50	\$10.75 \$96.75
8001-9	\$5.00	\$64.50	\$10.75 \$107.50
9001-10	\$5.00	\$69.50	\$10.75 \$118.25
10001 - 11	\$5.50	\$75.00	\$10.75 \$129.00
11001 - 12	\$5.50	\$80.50	\$10.75 \$139.75
12001 - 13	\$5.50	\$86.00	\$10.75 \$150.50
13001 - 14	\$5.50	\$91.50	\$10.75 \$161.25

14001 - 15	\$5.50	\$97.00	\$10.75	\$172.00
15001 - 16	\$5.50	\$102.50	\$10.75	\$182.75
16001 -	\$5.50	\$108.00	\$10.75	\$193.50

Residential Sewer  
Northampton County Water Department

Current Sewer Rate		New Rate		
Base Rate	\$15.00		\$18.00	
Cost / 1000 Gallons				
1-1000	\$5.50	\$20.50	\$8.00	\$26.00
1001-2	\$5.50	\$26.00	\$8.00	\$34.00
2001-3	\$5.50	\$31.50	\$9.50	\$43.50
3001-4	\$5.50	\$37.00	\$9.50	\$53.00
4001-5	\$5.50	\$42.50	\$11.50	\$64.50
5001-6	\$5.50	\$48.00	\$11.50	\$76.00
6001-7	\$5.50	\$53.50	\$11.50	\$87.50
7001-8	\$5.50	\$59.00	\$11.50	\$99.00
8001-9	\$5.50	\$64.50	\$11.50	\$110.50
9001-10	\$5.50	\$70.00	\$11.50	\$122.00
10001 - 11	\$5.60	\$75.60	\$11.50	\$133.50
11001 - 12	\$5.60	\$81.20	\$11.50	\$145.00
12001 - 13	\$5.60	\$86.80	\$11.50	\$156.50
13001 - 14	\$5.60	\$92.40	\$11.50	\$168.00
14001 - 15	\$5.60	\$98.00	\$11.50	\$179.50
15001 - 16	\$5.60	\$103.60	\$11.50	\$191.00
16001 -	\$5.60	\$109.20	\$11.50	\$202.50

Commercial Water  
Northampton County Water Department

Current Water Rate			New Rate	
Base Rate	\$25.50		\$29.50	
Cost / 1000				
Gallons				
1-1000	\$5.00	\$30.50	\$6.00	\$35.50
1001-2	\$5.00	\$35.50	\$6.00	\$41.50
2001-3	\$5.00	\$40.50	\$7.50	\$49.00
3001-4	\$5.00	\$45.50	\$10.75	\$59.75
4001-5	\$5.00	\$50.50	\$10.75	\$70.50
5001-6	\$5.00	\$55.50	\$10.75	\$81.25
6001-7	\$5.00	\$60.50	\$10.75	\$92.00
7001-8	\$5.00	\$65.50	\$10.75	\$102.75
8001-9	\$5.00	\$70.50	\$10.75	\$113.50
9001-10	\$5.00	\$75.50	\$10.75	\$124.25
10001 - 11	\$5.50	\$81.00	\$10.75	\$135.00
11001 - 12	\$5.50	\$86.50	\$10.75	\$145.75
12001 - 13	\$5.50	\$92.00	\$10.75	\$156.50
13001 - 14	\$5.50	\$97.50	\$10.75	\$167.25
14001 - 15	\$5.50	\$103.00	\$10.75	\$178.00
15001 - 16	\$5.50	\$108.50	\$10.75	\$188.75
16001 -	\$5.50	\$114.00	\$10.75	\$199.50

Commercial Sewer  
Northampton County Water Department

Current Sewer Rate			New Rate	
Base Rate	\$20.00		\$26.00	
Cost / 1000 Gallons				
1-1000	\$7.00	\$27.00	\$8.00	\$34.00
1001-2	\$7.00	\$34.00	\$8.00	\$42.00
2001-3	\$7.00	\$41.00	\$9.50	\$51.50
3001-4	\$7.00	\$48.00	\$9.50	\$61.00
4001-5	\$7.00	\$55.00	\$11.50	\$72.50
5001-6	\$7.00	\$62.00	\$11.50	\$84.00
6001-7	\$7.00	\$69.00	\$11.50	\$95.50
7001-8	\$7.00	\$76.00	\$11.50	\$107.00
8001-9	\$7.00	\$83.00	\$11.50	\$118.50
9001-10	\$7.00	\$90.00	\$11.50	\$130.00
10001 - 11	\$7.00	\$97.00	\$11.50	\$141.50
11001 - 12	\$7.00	\$104.00	\$11.50	\$153.00
12001 - 13	\$7.00	\$111.00	\$11.50	\$164.50
13001 - 14	\$7.00	\$118.00	\$11.50	\$176.00
14001 - 15	\$7.00	\$125.00	\$11.50	\$187.50
15001 - 16	\$7.00	\$132.00	\$11.50	\$199.00
16001 -	\$7.00	\$139.00	\$11.50	\$210.50

**Question Called: Voting yes were Mr. Tyner, Ms. Faulkner, Ms. Boone and Ms. Buffaloe. Voting no was Mr. Edwards. Motion Carried.**

**Appointment of Veteran’s Commission Board Member (Tab 7):**

A motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to table consideration of this matter to a future meeting of the Board. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Appointment of CADA Board Member (Tab 8):**

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to table consideration of this matter to a future meeting of the Board. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Northampton County ABC Board Reappointment (Tab 9):**

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to reappoint Daryl K. Williams to the Northampton County ABC Board for another three year term. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**AmeriHealth Caritas Home Health Agency Contract (Tab 10):**

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to table consideration of this matter to a future meeting of the Board. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Reimbursement Resolution (Tab 11):**

Scott McKellar, County Attorney, appeared and presented the Board with a Resolution declaring the intent of the County to reimburse itself for capital expenditures incurred in connection with certain improvements to the County’s water system from the proceeds of certain obligations. The subject Resolution pertains to the Phase VI Water Systems Improvement Project. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Mr. Boone, to approve the Resolution as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Rich Square Fire Service District Tax Rate Increase (Tab 12):**

Mark Vick appeared on behalf of the Rich Square Volunteer Fire Department and presented the Board with a request to increase the Rich Square Fire Service Tax Rate from \$0.05 to \$0.75 per \$100 as endorsed by the Town of Rich Square Board of Commissioners. No Board action was taken.

**Aging Department Updates (Tab 13):**

Theresa Scott, Director of Aging, appeared and presented the Board with an update on the senior services being provided and produce boxes to be delivered in March. No Board action was taken.

**Sea Cadets Presentation (Tab 14):**

Robert Kruger, Veteran Service Officer, appeared and made a presentation on the Sea Cadets program that is currently seeking sponsorships and a location to meet. No Board action was taken.

**Ad Valorem Tax Appeals (Motor Vehicles) (Tab 15):**

Jaime Mason, Tax Administrator, appeared and presented the Board with Ad Valorem tax appeals on motor vehicles in the total amount of \$775.35 on 13 appeals. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the refunds and corresponding appeals as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Property Listing Extension (Tab 16):**

Ms. Mason next presented the Board with a decision paper recommending the extension of the 2022 property listing period from January 1, 2022 through March 11, 2022. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve listing period extension as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Budget Amendments (Tab 17):**

Doris Garner, Interim Finance Director, appeared and presented the Board with the following Budget Amendments:

- Budget Amendment #13: State funding received for Covid Vaccination Program in the amount of \$29,644.00;
- Budget Amendment #14: Additional State funding received for Covid Vaccination Program in the amount of \$201,072.00;
- Budget Amendment #15: Additional State funding received for Covid Vaccination Program (Covid – Cares) in the amount of \$20,596.00;
- Budget Amendment #16: Insurance payments received for vehicle repairs in Sheriff’s Department in the amount of \$2,181.76 and
- Budget Amendment #17: DSS American Rescue Plan Act funding (LIHWAP) in the amount of \$254,920.00.

A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Budget Amendments as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

**Citizen Comments (Tab 18):**

Charles Youse stated he was disappointed in the public hearing conducted earlier in the meeting.

Patricia Tashima stated that the Board should do better with technology during its meetings and requested that the various acronyms used for County boards be explained to citizens when they come up for consideration.

Anneke Revelle asked the Board to do better in getting the word out to the public on its actions.

**Interim County Manager Comments (Tab 18):**

Mr. Tyner stated that the Board is in the process of interviewing new candidates for the County Manager position. Budget planning is ongoing and bids for the new courthouse will be opened on

February 15, 2022.

**Board Comments (Tab 18):**

Mr. Edwards thanked those in attendance and reminded citizens to stay safe.

Ms. Buffaloe noted the ribbon cutting for the new boat landing behind Odom Prison will be on February 10, 2022.

Ms. Boone remarked that the Board will work to accommodate citizens better going forward.

Ms. Faulkner highlighted a February 9 summer youth program deadline for State funding. She also encourages citizens to state safe.

Mr. Tyner thanked those in attendance and stated that the Board is pushing for new internet service on the western end of the County.

**Closed Session (Tab 19):**

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 20):**

Upon return from closed session, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to adjourn. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted this 7th day of February, 2022.

Scott McKellar  
County Attorney / Acting Secretary