

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 16, 2022**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on May 16, 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.

Others Present: Julian Phillips, Itia Robertson, Jaime Mason, Judith Modeste, Doris Garner, Lakeshia Ransom 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 May 16, 2022 with the addition of a new agenda item for the Health Department Child Fatality Prevention Team report. **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.

Board of Equalization and Review (Tab 5):

Mr. Tyner recessed the Board of Commissioners and convened the Board of Equalization and Review.

Jaime Mason, Tax Administrator and Clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review, appeared and administered the oath of office to the Board of Equalization and Review.

A motion was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Board of Equalization and Review Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2021. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Ms. Mason next presented a call for appeals of value to the Board of Equalization and Review, such appeals being submitted in writing to Ms. Mason and mailed to the Northampton County Tax Department by 5:00 p.m. on June 6, 2022.

Mr. Tyner then recessed the Board of Equalization and Review to June 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened the Board of Commissioners.

Ad Valorem Tax Appeals (Motor Vehicles) (Tab 6):

Ms. Mason next presented the Board with Ad Valorem tax appeals on motor vehicles in the total amount of \$1,175.80 on 14 appeals. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the appeals as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Choanoke Area Housing Consortium (Tab 7):

Mr. Tyner presented the Board with a proposed Joint Cooperation Agreement and Resolution for Adoption of the Joint Cooperation Agreement for the Establishment of the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium under the Federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Buffaloe, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to approve both the Agreement and Resolution as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Trillium Health Resources Annual Report (Tab 8):

Bland Baker, BA Northern Regional Director for Trillium Health Resources, appeared and presented the Board with Trillium's Annual Report for the County. No Board action was taken.

eBodyGuard Contract (Tab 9):

Lakeshia Ransom, Communications Director, appeared and presented the Board with a decision paper and proposed contract with eBodyGuard, LLC to integrate interagency digital evidence collection and other discovery items for criminal court matters. A motion thereafter was made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to approve the contract as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Child Fatality Prevention Team Report (New Agenda Item):

Mr. Tyner noted the Board had received a Child Fatality Prevention Team Annual Report from the Health Department and is providing the Report to the Commissioners for informational purposes. No Board action was taken.

Budget Amendments (Tab 10):

Judith Modeste, Finance Officer, appeared and presented the Board with the following Budget Amendments:

- Budget Amendment #35: Receipt of funding by DSS from NCDHHS in the amount of \$175,664.80 for APS Essential Services; and
- Budget Amendment #36: Receipt of funding by Health Department in the amount of \$10,095.00 for a breastfeeding peer counselor position.

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

Citizen Comments (Tab 11):

None.

County Manager Comments (Tab 11):

Mr. Phillips remarked that the budget process is progressing and thanked the citizens for coming and showing their interest in County government.

Board Comments (Tab 11):

Ms. Buffaloe asked for everyone to remember the families involved the recent mass shootings in the country. She offered her congratulations to the Class of 2022 and highlighted an upcoming presentation at the Museum of the Albemarle scheduled for June 4.

Ms. Boone had no comments.

Mr. Edwards reminded citizens that May is Mental Health Awareness month.

Ms. Faulkner stated that tomorrow is election day for the primaries and citizens should exercise their right to vote.

Mr. Tyner reported that employees have expressed gratitude for a recent half day off and for the bonuses awarded. The Board is pursuing the expansion of internet services in the County. The new courthouse construction is commencing soon. The County has received \$3 million in federal funding for its workforce housing project and we are currently waiting on further details from Washington, DC. The Phase VI water project is progressing. Mr. Tyner concluded by thanking Mr. Phillips for his hard work so far.

Closed Session (Tab 12):

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

Adjourn (Tab 13):

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

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of May, 2022.

Scott McKellar
County Attorney / Acting Secretary