

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 2, 2022**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on May 2, 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 (via Zoom), Nicole Boone and Joyce Buffaloe.

Absent: Kelvin Edwards.

Others Present: Julian Phillips, Itia Robertson, Megan Vick, Paul Nowell, Judith Modeste, Doris Garner, Franklin Williams 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. Buffaloe, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the agenda for May 2, 2022 as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Conflict of Interest (Tab 4):

Ms. Boone 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.

Veterans Advocacy Commission Appointment (Tab 5):

Upon presentation by Mr. Tyner, a motion was made by Ms. Buffaloe, seconded by Ms. Boone, to appoint Garfield Johnson to the Northampton County Veterans Advocacy Commission. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Appointments (Tab 6):

Upon presentation by Mr. Tyner, a motion was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to appoint Phillip Harley, Beverly Rascoe and Chris Langston to the Northampton County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

EMS Billing Agreement Amendment (Tab 7):

Paul Nowell, EMS Director, appeared and presented the Board with a decision paper outlining a proposed Amendment to the County's Billing Agreement with EMS Management & Consultants, Inc. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the Amendment as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Athena Health Contract (Tab 8):

Megan Vick, Local Public Health Administrator, appeared and presented the Board with a proposed contract with Athena Health, Inc. to provide the Health Department with a new Electronic Health Records system. 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.**

Project Ordinance for ARPA Funds (Tab 9):

Doris Garner, former Interim Finance Officer, appeared and presented the Board with a proposed Grant Project Ordinance for Northampton County, NC, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Buffaloe, seconded by Ms. Boone, to approve the Project Ordinance as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Budget Amendments (Tab 10):

Ms. Garner next presented the Board with the following Budget Amendments:

- Budget Amendment #33: Receipt of funding by DSS from NCDHHS in the amount of \$2,559.00 for APS Essential Services; and
- Budget Amendment #34: Appropriation of \$160,000.00 from fund balance to cover expenses of new E911 servers.

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

FY 2021-2022 Audit Presentation (Tab 11):

Alan Thompson, CPA with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A., appeared and presented the Board with the County's Audit for FY 2021-2022. No Board action was taken.

Proposed Employee Bonuses (Tab 12):

Julian Phillips, County Manager, appeared and presented the Board with a proposed employee bonus for every active County employee on record as of March 31, 2022 who have also maintained employment with the County for a minimum of one year. The proposed bonus is as follows:

- Full-time and permanent part-time employees: \$1,000.00; and
- Part-time employees: \$500.00.

A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Boone, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve bonus as presented and for the County Manager to look into potential bonuses for post-probationary employees who have been with the County for less than one year. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Citizen Comments (Tab 13):

None.

Board Comments (Tab 13):

Ms. Buffaloe thanked those citizens in attendance.

Ms. Boone reminded citizens that May was Mental Health Awareness Month and wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

Ms. Faulkner congratulated the Class of 2022 local graduates and thanked the County employees and citizens in attendance.

Mr. Tyner reported that citizens on the western end of the County have expressed interest in the new wastewater line project. The new courthouse construction should begin in the next thirty days. He concluded by thanking the citizens who attended the meeting.

Closed Session (Tab 14):

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)(3) Attorney-Client Privilege and (a)(4) EDC Report. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Adjourn (Tab 15):

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 2nd day of May, 2022.

Scott McKellar
County Attorney / Acting Secretary