

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on September 20, 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, Geneva Faulkner and Joyce Buffaloe.

Nicole Boone and Kelvin Edwards appeared remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Others Present: Tanya Smallwood-Chanda, Tameka Green, Jaime Mason, 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. Faulkner, seconded by Dr. Edwards, to approve the agenda for September 20, 2021 as presented. **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:

A motion was made by Ms. Buffaloe, seconded by Dr. Edwards, to approve the consent agenda for as presented, thereby approving the following meeting minutes of the Board of Commissioners:

- July 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes;
- July 19, 2021 Public Hearing Minutes;
- July 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes;
- August 2, 2021 Public Hearing Minutes;
- August 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes;
- August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes;

- August 30, 2021 Special Called Meeting Minutes; and
- September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.

Consideration of Bond Refunding Resolutions (Tab 5):

Ted Cole, Senior Vice President of Davenport & Company, LLC, appeared and presented the Board with a revised Resolution Making Preliminary Findings and Authorizing Application for Approval from the Local Government Commission for General Obligation Refunding Bonds. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Resolution as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Mr. Cole next presented the Board with a Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the County of Northampton, North Carolina in an amount not to exceed \$12,300,000. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Buffaloe, seconded by Ms. Faulkner, to approve the Bond Order as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Mr. Tyner recessed the Northampton County Board of Commissioners and convened the Northampton-Garysburg Sewer District.

Mr. Cole presented the Northampton-Garysburg Sewer District with a Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the Northampton-Garysburg Sewer District in an amount not to exceed \$450,000. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Bond Order as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Mr. Tyner adjourned the Northampton-Garysburg Sewer District and reconvened the Northampton County Board of Commissioners.

Charters of Freedom (Tab 6):

David Streeter and Ron Lewis appeared on behalf of Foundation Forward, Inc. and presented the Charters of Freedom project to the Board, which consists of placing replicas of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights to public settings across North Carolina and the country for the benefit and education of all citizens. The Board was receptive to the presentation and there was a general discussion about the potential placement of the monuments at the new County courthouse under development. No Board action was taken.

Committees, Boards, Commissions and Authorities (Tab 7):

Northampton County Animal Control Advisory Committee

Mr. Tyner announced the creation of the Northampton County Animal Control Advisory Committee and requested that Dr. Edwards to head the Committee and to take steps to hold an initial meeting. Citizens were invited to apply for appointment to the Committee. No Board action was taken.

Roanoke Chowan Regional Housing Authority

Upon presentation by Mr. Tyner, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to reappoint Julius Webb of Woodland to the Roanoke Chowan Regional Housing Authority for a term effective through August 2022. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Tax Matters (Tab 8):

Jaime Mason, Tax Administrator, presented Ad Valorem tax appeals for motor vehicles in the total amount of \$2,372.82 on 20 appeals. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Dr. Edwards, to approve the refunds and corresponding appeals as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Budget Amendments (Tab 9):

Tameka Green, Finance Officer, presented the Board with Budget Amendment No. 6 in the amount of \$10,748.59 to allocate leftover funds to Fiscal Year 2021-22 from the North Carolina Community Foundation Grant. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Proclamation (Tab 10):

Scott McKellar, County Attorney, presented the Board with a Proclamation Recognizing the 100th Birthday of Mrs. Viola Boone Sykes. A motion thereafter was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to approve the Proclamation as presented. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Citizen Comments (Tab 11):

None.

Interim County Manager Comments (Tab 11):

Mr. Tyner recognized Bob Murphy and thanked him for his consulting services for the County. He then announced that Ms. Smallwood-Chanda would be leaving her employment with the County and thanked her for her hard work and service. Mr. Tyner announced that Ms. Buffaloe had been appointed to the Halifax Community College Board of Trustees. He next reported that the mold issues in the Department of Social Services had been remediated. Mr. Tyner concluded by announcing that longtime employee Anthony Wheeler would be the new Building and Grounds Director for the County.

Board Comments (Tab 11):

Dr. Edwards congratulated Mrs. Viola Boone Sykes on her 100th birthday and congratulated Ms. Buffaloe on her appointment to the Halifax Community College Board of Trustees. He reminded citizens to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Boone also wished Ms. Sykes and happy 100th birthday. She thanked Ms. Smallwood-Chanda for her service to the County. She concluded by reminding citizens that September is suicide prevention month and that help is available to those in need.

Ms. Buffaloe extended her gratitude to Ms. Smallwood-Chanda and stated that she would be missed.

Ms. Faulkner also thanked Ms. Smallwood-Chanda for her dedicated service to the County and announced that on September 25, 2022 there would be a Little Free Library being installed at the Rich Square-Creecy school site.

Mr. Tyner thanked Sheila Moses for her efforts in getting the Little Free Library in Rich Square. He reported that work is ongoing to reinstate the County's aging program. He concluded by stating that he and Board are always keeping a sharp eye on the use of taxpayer funds and that waste must be avoided in County departments.

Closed Session (Tab 12):

A motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, 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.**

Interim Clerk to the Board

Upon return from closed session, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Buffaloe, to appoint Barbara Williams as Interim Clerk to the Board and Administrative Assistant to the County Manager. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Adjourn (Tab 13):

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Boone, to adjourn. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of September, 2021.

Scott McKellar
County Attorney / Acting Secretary