

Windsor, North Carolina
April 7, 2015
Regular Meeting

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at the special time of 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room located at 106 Dundee Street Windsor, NC. The following members were present:

Present: Ronald "Ron" Wesson, District I
Stewart White, District II
Tammy A. Lee, District III
John Trent, District IV
Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, District V

Absent: None

Staff Present: County Manager Scott Sauer
Clerk to the Board Sarah S. Tinkham
County Attorney Lloyd Smith
Network Administrator Joe Wilkes
Finance Director William Roberson
Department of Social Services Director Linda Speller

Barry Ward of the Bertie Ledger-Advance and Gene Motley of the Roanoke-Chowan News Herald were present from the media.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wesson called the meeting to order and thanked all of those present for their attendance.

INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Lee led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Michael Elam, President of Roanoke-Chowan Community College (RCCC), provided the Board with an update on the latest events happening on campus.

He stated that many were advocating for Bertie even in his absence from Commissioners meetings including the work of the newest member of the Board of Trustees, Julie Terry, a Bertie County resident.

He relayed that Ms. Terry had recently attended a college trustee seminar in Chicago, Illinois and received valuable training that will assist her in her work as a representative of the County.

Dr. Elam also mentioned the recently established RCCC satellite campus at the former Bertie High School building as well as a recent Robotics event that was held to promote the interest of middle school aged children in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) initiatives.

Chairman Wesson inquired about the addition of more vocational classes at the former Bertie High School campus.

Dr. Elam replied by stating that he was currently working closely with Bertie County Public Schools Superintendent, Elaine White, to provide additional programs in the future including hotel & restaurant management, plumbing, and others.

APPOINTMENTS

Public Hearing – Road Name Change Policy

County Manager Sauer began by stating that the latest version of this draft is the most recent and reflects the Board's requested changes from a previous meeting, and that this public hearing has been appropriately advertised in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes.

Chairman Wesson opened the public hearing to receive citizen comments, and hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

Chairman Wesson opened the floor for a motion or additional discussion.

Commissioner Bazemore made a **MOTION** to approve the Road Name Change Policy Ordinance as drafted. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Republic Services – Update on contract documents, site selection, and development

Matt East and Josephine Aiken of Republic Services were present for this portion of the meeting.

County Attorney Smith provided his recommended changes and the Board discussed those suggestions as needed with the representatives of Republic Services.

The Board also inquired about Republic Services' hiring process and requested confirmation that all current employees of each convenience site would be considered first.

Mr. East assured the Board that the current staff would receive priority. He also stated that Republic Services was currently participating in discussions with Waste Industries about possibly purchasing the current convenience center properties.

Chairman Wesson assured Mr. East and Ms. Aiken that once the suggested changes have been made, and the contract has been resubmitted to the County Attorney, it would be approved in the coming days and would not have to be approved at a formal Board meeting.

East Carolina Behavioral Health and Coastal Care consolidation proposal by Bland Baker

Mr. Bland Baker of Coastal Care provided a brief PowerPoint presentation regarding the consolidation of the Area Board of Coastal Care and the Area Board of East Carolina Behavioral Health.

This new Board will provide a local presence in the counties served and assure each county has input into the services received by its residents. Bertie County will be classified into the Northern Region.

Commissioner Bazemore made a **MOTION** to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Resolution reads as follows:



BERTIE COUNTY

106 DUNDEE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 530
WINDSOR, NORTH CAROLINA
27983
(252) 794-5300
FAX: (252) 794-5327
WWW.CO.BERTIE.NC.US

**BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

RONALD "RON" WESSON, Chairman
TAMMY A. LEE, Vice-Chairman
JOHN TRENT
ERNESTINE (BYRD) BAZEMORE
STEWART WHITE

**Resolution of Support for an Alternative Governance Structure for the Area Authority
serving Bertie County**

WHEREAS, in accordance with N. C. General Statute § 122C 115 (c1), the Area Board of CoastalCare, an Area Authority serving Brunswick, Carteret, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties and the Area Board of East Carolina Behavioral Health, an Area Authority serving Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties, have entered into an agreement to consolidate their agencies into a twenty-four county Area Authority serving all previously names counties; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services has approved this consolidation, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, N. C. General Statute § 122C – 118.1, which specifies the composition of an Area Authority Board, permits an alternative Area Board structure to be implemented 1) if the total population of the Area Authority catchment area exceeds 1,250,000 and 2) if the counties which comprise the Area Authority agree by resolution to an alternative structure; and

WHEREAS, the total population of the new Area Authority created by the consolidation of CoastalCare and East Carolina Behavioral Health is 1,260,778; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of the twenty-four counties to approve an alternative governance structure for the consolidated Area Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Bertie County Board of Commissioners, do hereby approve the structure of the Area Board and the Regional Advisory Boards of the consolidated Area Authority, as outlined below.

To provide a local presence in the counties served and to assure that each county has input into the services received by its residents, the twenty-four county catchment area will have three regions. The regions have been designed to equalize, to the extent possible, the number of counties, population in the region, and overall square mileage of the regions. The three regions and the counties served are:

Northern Region: Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank and Perquimans Counties.

or designee of the regional Consumer and Family Advisory Committee. County Commissioner members of the Regional Advisory Boards may serve for as long as they are a commissioner. Other members of the Regional Advisory Board may serve for up to three, three year consecutive terms.

The primary functions of the Regional Advisory Board will be to advise the Area Authority Chief Executive Officer on the evaluation and hiring of a Regional Director; recommending priorities for expenditure of state and county funds for development of the annual budget; determining local priorities for inclusion in the overall strategic plan; identifying community needs and concerns; monitoring resolution of issues; and monitoring performance at the local level, including access to care, expenditure of service funds, number of consumers served, services delivered, provider network size and composition, outcomes, and consumer satisfaction.

Each Regional Advisory Board will establish its own bylaws based on local needs, but in compliance with standardized requirements established by the Governing Board for quorums, frequency of meetings, elections of officers, duties of members, committees and committee appointments, and attendance standards. Such bylaws are subject to the approval of the Governing Board.

Each Regional Advisory Board will select four (4) members to serve as the Area Authority Governing Board: one county commissioner, the Consumer and Family Advisory Committee chair or designee, and two other members. In addition, the chair or designee of the Area Authority Network Council shall serve on the Governing Board as a non-voting member. The county commissioner members of the Governing Board shall serve one three year term without consecutive reappointment, so that commissioner representation on the Governing Board will rotate among the counties in each region. The other members of the Governing Board may serve three, three year terms.

The Governing Board's primary responsibilities will include determining policy; strategic planning, including consideration of local priorities as determined by the Regional Advisory Boards; budgets; hiring and evaluations of the Chief Executive Officer; monitoring of deliverables, including overall performance and financial management; government affairs and advocacy; reporting to constituent counties; responding to concerns and feedback from the Regional Advisory Boards; reviewing, revising and approving the Regional Advisory Board bylaws; and all other responsibilities outlined in N. C. law for Area Authority Boards. The Governing Board will develop and adopt bylaws to address its activities in accordance with law.

ADOPTED this 7 day of April

2015.



Ronald D. Wesson, Chairman
Bertie County Board of Commissioners



Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board

Project update and additional service agreement proposal by Bob Segal Revenue and Expense Specialists

Bob Segal presented an update of his firm's progress and proposed an additional service to include entities such as utility companies which may not have fully listed property for taxes.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to approve the additional contract with Mr. Segal's firm. Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Latest Board Vacancy Advertisement – Bertie Ledger-Advance

The Board electronically received a copy of the latest Board vacancy advertisement that was published in the April 1, 2015 edition of the Bertie-Ledger Advance.

There was no action needed for this item.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve minutes for Regular Session 3-16-15

County Manager Sauer recommended this item for approval.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to approve the Regular Session minutes from 3-16-15. Commissioner White **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Accept Register of Deeds Fees Report – March 2015

County Manager Sauer recommended this item for approval.

Commissioner White made a **MOTION** to accept the Register of Deeds Fees Report for March 2015. Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Service weapon disposition – in honor of retiring Chief Deputy Greg Atkins

Chairman Wesson read the following resolution into the record:



BERTIE COUNTY
106 DUNDEE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 530
WINDSOR, NORTH CAROLINA 27983
(252) 794-5300
FAX: (252) 794-5327
WWW.CO.BERTIE.NC.US

C-3

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RONALD "RON" WESSON, Chairman
TAMMY A. LEE, Vice-Chairman
JOHN TRENT
ERNESTINE (BYRD) BAZEMORE
STEWART WHITE

**RESOLUTION DECLARING SERVICE WEAPONS AS SURPLUS PROPERTY;
AUTHORIZATION OF PURCHASE BY RETIRING
CHIEF DEPUTY GREG ATKINS**

THAT, WHEREAS, Greg Atkins, began his Bertie County Law Enforcement career on September 21, 1987; and

WHEREAS, after 30 years of distinguished service to Bertie County, Greg Atkins will retire; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2 (a) provides that the governing body of the law enforcement agency may in its discretion, award to a retiring member upon his/her request for their service weapon(s); and


WHEREAS, the governing body deems said service weapons as surplus property; and

WHEREAS, according to North Carolina General Statute 14-202 and 14-409.1, proper permits have been obtained in order to receive the side arm.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Bertie County Board of Commissioners that Greg Atkins be awarded the following service weapons for the following denominations: a price of one dollar (\$1.00) for a Sig 9229, 40 caliber, with the Serial Number of AJU22252 and a fair market value price of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for a Smith & Wesson, 357 Revolver, with the Serial Number CJU0091.

This resolution adopted this 7th day of April, 2015.

(SEAL)


Ronald D. Wesson, Chairman
Bertie County Board of Commissioners


Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to declare the service weapons listed as surplus equipment in order to be sold for the listed denominations as stated. Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Board thanked Mr. Atkins for his dedicated service to the County.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Discuss NACo Prescription, Health, and Dental Plan as recommended by Commissioner Bazemore

The Board reviewed a brochure in their electronic agenda packet about a Prescription, Health, and Dental Plan for County citizens.

The program would be of no cost to the County but it would provide discounts to citizens if they receive healthcare from participating providers.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to move forward with the program and to have all processes followed to secure the discount options for the citizens of the County. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Presentation of Health, Dental, and Life Insurance bids for FY 2015-2016 by Donna Nixon of Pierce Group Benefits Following up Ms. Nixon's presentation to the Board in February, the Board reviewed recommendations for health, dental, and life insurance coverage for FY 2015-2016.

After some discussion, Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to selected Blue Cross and Blue Shield's option 2 as well as a Life Insurance/Dental package from Met Life as recommended by Donna Nixon. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

There was also discussion about the need to review the County's funding obligations for accrued liability for post-employment benefits. The County Manager was encouraged to put this item on an upcoming work session agenda.

Finance Officer's Report and Budget Amendments

The Board received a copy of the Finance Officer's Report in their electronic agenda packet.

The County Manager highlighted several key points of interest for the governing body, especially the fiscal performance of the water system in light of recent rate structure adjustments approved by the Board effective July 1, 2014.

Finance Officer, William Roberson, requested that the Board approve Budget Amendment #15-03.

Commissioner White made a **MOTION** to approve Budget Amendment #15-03 as requested. Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Budget Amendment #15-03 reads as follows:

BUDGET AMENDMENT				
		# 15-03		
	DECREASE			DECREASE
10-0090-4991-99	\$ 3,289		10-4950-5399-30	\$ 3,289
TO REDUCE BUDGET TO ACTUAL AMOUNT RECEIVED - EFNEP PROGRAM - SUPPLIES				
	INCREASE			INCREASE
12-5380-5399-70	\$ 3,999		12-0025-4531-02	\$ 3,999
INCREASE BUDGET FOR CRISIS - MONEY FROM FEDERAL GOV.				
	INCREASE			INCREASE
10-5860-5399-95	\$ 29,251	EDTAP	10-0025-4586-03	\$ 29,251
12-5380-5399-95	\$ 19,500	EDTAP	12-0025-4586-03	\$ 19,500
12-5380-5399-94	\$ 9,013	WF	12-0025-4531-10	\$ 9,013
10-6100-5695-20	\$ 47,076	RGP	10-0025-4585-04	\$ 47,076
TO SETUP BUDGET FOR ROAP TRANSPORTATION MONEY FROM STATE				
	DECREASE			INCREASE
46-6307-5399-86	\$ 2,339		46-6307-5399-85	\$ 2,339
BUDGET REVISION FOR 11-CDBG-HU FUNDS				
	DECREASE			INCREASE
47-4500-5400-10	\$ 15,673		47-4500-5399-85	\$ 11,673
			47-4500-5399-87	\$ 4,000
BUDGET REVISION FOR 11-CDBG-SS FUNDS				
	INCREASE			INCREASE
10-0050-4839-82	\$ 2,393	20-Oct	10-4950-5399-20	\$ 2,393
10-0050-4839-82	\$ 1,542	26-Nov	10-4950-5399-20	\$ 1,542
10-0050-4839-82	\$ 1,446	4-Mar	10-4950-5399-20	\$ 1,446
TO INCREASE BUDGET - SERVSAFE REIMBURSEMENTS				
	DECREASE			INCREASE
51-5430-5399-09	\$ 33,530		51-5430-5991-00	\$ 33,530
TO ADJ BUD FOR CHANGE ORDER G-05 PASSED ON JULY 07, 2014				
	INCREASE			INCREASE
12-5380-5411-50	\$ 5,995		12-0025-4586-18	\$ 5,995
TO INCREASE BUDGET FOR LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE - (LIEAP)				
	INCREASE			INCREASE
10-5860-5399-05	\$ 2,476		10-0025-4586-07	\$ 2,476
TO SETUP BUDGET FOR SHIP GRANT - MONEY REC'D 10-14-14				

BUDGET AMENDMENT				
		# 15-03		
		INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0050-4848-08	\$	1,800	10-5860-5400-00	\$ 1,800
TO SET UP BUDGET FOR KELFORD NUTRITION SITE RENT (DONATION FROM ARTHUR W. PERDUE FOUNDATION, INC.)				
		INCREASE		INCREASE
12-0025-4531-04	\$	28,800	12-5380-5399-73	\$ 28,800
TO SET UP BUDGET - ADOPTION SERVICES (ADOPTION PROMOTION FUND)				
		DECREASE		DECREASE
10-0025-4586-02	\$	21,921	10-5860-5220-00	\$ 15,890
12-0025-4586-02	\$	312	10-5860-5399-22	\$ 10,555
			10-5860-5121-00	\$ 5,191
			12-5380-5399-60	\$ 312
				INCREASE
			10-5860-5399-08	\$ 1,539
			10-5860-5399-81	\$ 4,843
			10-5860-5351-10	\$ 3,333
REDUCE BUDGET FROM HCCBG AND REALLOCATE FUNDS (MID-EAST)				
		DECREASE		INCREASE
47-4500-5399-86	\$	5,107	47-4500-5400-10	\$ 8,144
47-4500-5399-87	\$	2,637		
47-4500-5399-88	\$	400		
TO REALLOCATE 11-CDBG-SS FUNDS / M. BARNETTE				
		INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0090-4991-99	\$	150,000	10-6100-5695-13	\$ 150,000
PURCHASE PRICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING ALLOCATED TO SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY WITH MOTION TO APPROVE REQUEST TO USE CAPITAL OUTLAY TO RENOVATE OLD BERTIE HIGH SCHOOL - FEBRUARY 2, 2015 MEETING.				
		INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0025-4586-05	\$	3,893	10-5860-5399-10	\$ 5,191
10-0090-4991-99	\$	1,298		
TO SETUP BUDGET FOR SR CENTER GENERAL PURPOSE MONEY (SIGNED OCT. 2014)				
		INCREASE		INCREASE
10-0090-4991-99	\$	200,000	10-6100-5695-36	\$ 200,000
TO SETUP BUDGET FOR BERTIE-MARTIN REGIONAL JAIL CAPITAL OUTLAY (SEE MARCH 16, 2015 BOC MEETING.)				
APPROVED ___ / ___ /2015				

Personnel Policy Amendment – proposal to modify definition of permanent part-time position from twenty (20) hours to (30) hours to insure compliance with federal Affordable Care Act in determining eligibility for employer provided health insurance coverage

The consensus of the Board was that this matter will be reviewed at a later date and considered for approval following the County Attorney’s review and recommendation.

Schedule interviews for Marketing & Economic Development Evaluation

County Manager Sauer was instructed to contact all of the Marketing firms to discuss a date for interviews with focus on the last week of April.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Chairman Wesson encouraged all available Commissioners to attend the 48th Annual Meeting of the Mid-East Commission at the Cashie Convention Center on Thursday, April 16, 2015.

The Board also discussed meeting early on April 20th beginning at 2:00pm to discuss various matters including: convening as the Board of Equalization and Review, receive an update from Bertie County Medical Director Mike Lowery, and discuss a county-wide abandoned/condemned building ordinance with the Assistant County Attorney, as well as receive water project updates.

The Board will then convene their regularly scheduled meeting at the Kelford Community Building located at 107 Broadway Street in the Town of Kelford at 7:00pm.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORTS

County Manager Sauer presented a second contract from Green Engineering regarding the Roxobel Water Project and requested the Board’s approval to move forward expeditiously to acquire that Town’s water system.

This work will include an update of the water system’s hydraulic model and will assist the County with locating a booster pump station to improve water pressure for the Town of Roxobel.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to move forward with the proposed contract with Green Engineering to take further steps in acquiring the Town of Roxobel’s water system using funds from the County’s fund balance reserves to cover the \$25,000 contract amount. Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Commissioner Trent reported that renovations are scheduled to begin soon at the Bertie-Martin Regional Jail.

Vice Chairman Lee informed the Board of a letter she had recently received regarding Senate Bill 658 which involves the prohibition of hunting on Sunday. Vice Chairman Lee stated that the letter was received from someone who requests the County's support.

After some discussion, the Board came to a consensus that any person interested in voicing their opinion on this Senate Bill should contact their State legislators directly.

Chairman Wesson suggested that the Board consider forming a County-wide inter-agency council that would focus on quality of life issues for the citizens of Bertie County.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS

The County Attorney requested that the Board consider putting a clause in the Republic Services contract that specifies the hourly rate structure that would go into effect for the convenience sites in the event of a natural disaster.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS

The County Manager did not make any remarks at this time other than to request time in Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with the County Attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege that exists between the attorney and this public body, and pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of employment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Board shifts into Closed Session.

OPEN SESSION

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to return to Open Session. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

There was no further discussion.

ADJOURN

Chairman Wesson adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

Ronald D. Wesson, Chairman

Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board