

**Windsor, North Carolina  
July 1, 2019  
REGULAR SESSION**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met their regular meeting today inside the Commissioners Room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. The following members were present or absent:

Present: Greg Atkins, District II  
Tammy A. Lee, District III  
John Trent, District IV  
Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, District V

Absent: Ronald "Ron" Wesson, District I

Staff Present: County Manager Scott Sauer  
Assistant County Manager Juan Vaughan, II.  
Clerk to the Board Sarah Tinkham  
Finance Director William Roberson  
Assistant to the County Manager Dominique Walker  
Register of Deeds Annie Wilson  
Cooperative Extension Director Billy Barrow

Gene Motley of the Roanoke-Chowan News Herald and Leslie Beachboard were present from the media.

**CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Trent called the meeting to order.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION**

Reverend Anthony Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

ECSU Professor Kulwinder Kaur-Walker was present to discuss her hurricane mental health resiliency study. She introduced her two research assistants, and briefly discussed the purpose of the study. The purpose is to tap into the mental health of those in hurricane affected areas, and see how their mental health has changed since the natural disaster occurred. She mentioned having over 100 surveys already completed, and that a majority of those were completed at the Bertie Beach Day event on June 29.

Cooperative Extension Director Billy Barrow introduced his new FCS Agent, Elizabeth Baker.

## **APPOINTMENTS and Reports**

### **Public Hearing-- a petition to name a new road as "Buck's River Road," located off SR 1392 (Point Comfort Rd) in the Colerain area**

Planning Director, Traci White, was present to facilitate discussion and provide a presentation to the Board about a request received to name a road. The road name request is for a road that has not been previously named. Bucks River Road is located in the Colerain area.

A public hearing was appropriately advertised for tonight's meeting, and Chairman Trent opened the public hearing to public comments on the request road name application.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Trent closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Lee made a **MOTION** to approve the road name request application.  
Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

**Presentation of County audit for budget year ended June 30, 2018 – Jeff Best, CPA**

Jeff Best of Jeff Best, CPA was present to provide the County’s audit report ended June 30, 2018. He briefly reviewed the audit and fielded any questions from the Board.

There was some discussion, and Chairman Trent informed Mr. Best that the County would not renew their contract with Jeff Best, CPA. He thanked Mr. Best for the work he has provided to the County during the last several audit cycles.

Mr. Best thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve them and the citizens of Bertie County.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

There were no Board Appointments.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes for Regular Meeting 6-3-2019
2. Approve Minutes for Work Session 6-3-19, 6-18-19
3. Approve Minutes for Budget Work Session 6-5-19
4. Approve Minutes for Budget Public Hearing 6-10-19
5. Register of Deeds Fees Report – July 2019

Commissioner Lee made a **MOTION** to approve the Consent items above. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

6. Approval of NC Department of Environmental Quality grant offer and acceptance resolutions and related documents for Water District II in the amount of \$65, 800 with a local match of \$3,290; and Water District III in the amount of \$150,000 with a local match of \$7,500.
7. Budget Amendments
8. Tax Release Journal- May 2018
9. Resolution – 50<sup>th</sup> Family Reunion Celebration, Hoggard-Wilson

Commissioner Lee made a **MOTION** to approve the Consent items above. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **TGOW – Program review and discussion for TGOW Bertie Beach Day event**

The Board briefly reviewed and discussed the Bertie Beach Day event on June 29. The Board expressed thanks to the event organizers, and also reviewed a highlight video.

The Board members present also encouraged the County to continue hosting similar events as they serve as great opportunities for citizens to come together.

### **First reading: proposed 2020 meeting schedule, Board of Commissioners, 2020 State Holiday schedule**

The Board received their first look at the 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting schedule as well as the 2020 State Holiday schedule that should be approved along with the Board meeting schedule.

## **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

### **Commissioner Lee**

Commissioner Lee thanked the public present for allowing her and her fellow commissioners to attend the 2019 NACo Annual Conference in Clarke County (Las Vegas), Nevada. She stated that she and her fellow elected leaders make valuable connections and learn valuable information to better serve Bertie County.

**Commissioner Bazemore**

Commissioner Bazemore announced the installation of a new pastor at Zion Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, and requested that County Administration prepare a welcome letter or resolution. She provided the contact for further information to aid in the process.

**Commissioner Atkins**

Commissioner Atkins had no comments at this time.

**Chairman Trent**

Chairman Trent had no comments at this time.

**COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORTS**

County Manager Sauer had no comments at this time

**ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORTS**

The Assistant County Manager had no comments at this time.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORTS**

The County Attorney had no comments at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dorothy Taylor of Merry Hill thanked the Board for hosting the Bertie Beach Day event, and that she was thrilled to see so many kids and families enjoying their time together. She stated that she knew it “took money to make money,” and that encourages all of those against the land acquisition to reconsider. That if they would visit the Outer Banks, Virginia Beach, or Morehead City, why not go to the other side of the County for a beach.

The Board thanked Ms. Taylor for her kind words, and stated that they would be very interested in hosting similar events in the future.

Register of Deeds, Annie Wilson, was present to personally invite Board members to her swearing in ceremony as the 2020 President of the NC Association of Register of Deeds (NCARD). She stated that Judge Branch will be in attendance with her in Blowing Rock to administer her oath, and she would like to see Commissioners present as well, schedules permitting.

Assistant to the County Manager, Dominique Walker, congratulated the Board on the Bertie Beach Day event. She recalled her time at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) and how she visited the County to see the infancy of the Tall Glass of Water (TGOW) project. She expressed her excitement for how far the property has come, and how it was enjoyed by so many during the event on June 29.

Commissioner Bazemore thanked all Law Enforcement and emergency personnel for their diligence in ensuring the event was safe and secure for all who attended.

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Trent **ADJOURNED** the meeting at 7:30 PM.

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John Trent, Chairman

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Sarah Tinkham, Clerk to the Board