

**Windsor, North Carolina**  
**May 4, 2020**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for a REGULAR MEETING today inside the Commissioners Room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was hosted partially in person, and partially via Zoom (conference call). The following members were present or absent:

Present:        Ronald “Ron” Wesson, District I  
                  Greg Atkins, District II  
                  Tammy A. Lee, District III  
                  John Trent, District IV (**Zoom**)  
                  Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, District V (**Zoom**)

Absent:         None

Staff Present: County Manager Juan Vaughan, II.  
                  County Attorney Lloyd Smith  
                  Economic Development Director Steve Biggs

Staff Present (Zoom): Clerk to the Board Sarah Tinkham  
                              Emergency Services Director Mitch Cooper  
                              Finance Director William Roberson  
                              Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea

Cal Bryant of the Roanoke-Chowan News Herald and Thadd White of the Bertie-Ledger Advance were present from the media via Zoom.

## INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Wesson gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## CALL TO ORDER

He welcomed the limited staff present and thanked those on the phone via Zoom for their participation. Commissioner John Trent and Commissioner Bazemore were recognized as two of the participants via Zoom, and noted that the Board would be checking in with both commissioners throughout tonight's discussions.

It was also encouraged that any questions be submitted via the Zoom chat feature. All questions will be answered periodically throughout the meeting.

## APPOINTMENTS & REPORTS

### **Convene as Board of Equalization & Review by Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea**

Vice Chair Lee made a **MOTION** for the Board of Commissioners to convene as the Board of Equalization & Review. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Tax Administrator Rhea noted that there were no appeals to be heard at tonight's meeting. However, three (3) formal appeals will be presented to the Board of Equalization & Review on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for citizens to submit their appeal is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

A total of 307 informal appeals were received representing 1.6% of the County's total parcels. Per revaluation figures, the County is now at a 5.31% increase in property values.

There was no further information to consider as the Board of Equalization & Review.

At this time, Chairman Wesson called for a motion to recess the Board of Equalization & Review until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice Chair Lee made a **MOTION** to recess the Board of Equalization & Review until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

## **Update on Efforts to Continue Operation of Sans Souci Ferry - Economic Development Director Steve Biggs**

Economic Development Director, Steve Biggs, came forward to update the Board about a recent letter received from NCDOT about the lack of funding to maintain the operation of the Sans Souci Ferry.

Grant options are being explored by the County as NCDOT is receptive to assisting the County if funds were secured.

It was further reported that between July 1, 2019 and April 26, 2020, the ferry had been closed for 175 days due to high water. The average number of vehicles using the ferry while in operation is 7 cars per day. Costs to operate the ferry per year is \$85,000, and this is done on a contract basis.

There was a lengthy discussion about current bills in the NC House and Senate that could provide additional funding to NCDOT which could assist with this project.

Commissioner Bazemore encouraged the County to continue to work diligently to find additional funding sources, and noted its significance to local tourism.

Chairman Wesson mentioned a possible partnership with Hertford County to find funding as they are also facing the same challenge with their respective ferry.

## **Legislative Update by NC State Representative Ed Goodwin**

NC State Representative, Ed Goodwin, was present to provide a brief legislative update.

He gave his remarks about the recent Ferry discussion.

He also discussed how the current “shut down” was impacting local businesses and religious organizations. Several bills were being considered in the State legislature about assisting local governments in addition to special attention for Tier 1 counties.

Food banks, child care providers, community service providers, and other areas are also being explored to assist in lost revenue directly related to COVID-19.

Mr. Goodwin noted that he was working diligently with other legislators to ensure that rural counties are not forgotten during these discussions.

**Consideration of Special Meeting to approve the issuance of bonds by The Arizona Industrial Development Authority to finance the acquisition of the Windsor House by Attorney Lloyd Smith & Jeff Poley**

County Attorney Smith began by giving brief background information about bonds being issued by the Arizona Industrial Development Authority so Urban Housing & Community Services Corporation, a California nonprofit corporation and an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or affiliates thereof could borrow money from said bond issuance to purchase The Windsor House from the current landlords who are based in Hong Kong, China.

Per IRS code, there is tax exempt funding that can be secured from The Arizona Industrial Development Authority per the governing body's approval in each unit of government wherein the funds would be used. This would not be a commitment of funds by the County, nor a pledge of its credit. The County would have no liability for these bonds of any type. It would serve as approval for the Urban Housing & Community Services Corporation, a California nonprofit corporation and an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or affiliates thereof to move forward with their eligibility to receive this tax-exempt funding per IRS requirements.

A special meeting would need to be held to approve the issuance of bonds by The Arizona Industrial Development Authority to finance the acquisition of the Windsor House by the Urban Housing & Community Services Corporation, a California nonprofit corporation and an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or affiliates thereof.

The Board discussed Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM as the special meeting date and time to further discuss and consider this matter. Zoom will be utilized so the public and Commissioners can participate. After the special meeting,

**YMCA Annual Update by Executive Director Casey Owens**

Casey Owens, Executive Director of the Windsor YMCA, noted several programs being hosted by the Windsor YMCA. Over 9,000 people utilized YMCA services in the last year.

An enrichment program was held for 150 participants, Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 PM. The participants were able to visit museums in Raleigh, Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck, as well as participate in other activities. The program received positive feedback from parents as well as from Bertie County Public Schools' Superintendent, Dr. Otis Smallwood.

A total of 86 girls from kindergarten through college participated in a YMCA sponsored dance program. A recital was set to be held in June. Mr. Owens hopes to have this recital and other sporting events held later on this year.

The YMCA also hosted basketball and cheerleading programs, completed mental health awareness activities, and karate.

Membership numbers are up 13% over the last year.

Chairman Wesson asked if concerns were resolved with the local YMCA chapter and the national YMCA brand. The national YMCA organization was looking to rebrand, and possibly discontinue smaller, independent YMCA's. More would be shared in the coming months about any changes.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

There were no Board Appointments.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve Minutes for Regular Meeting 4-20-20
2. Approve Minutes for Closed Session 4-20-20
3. Approve Register of Deeds Fees Report – May 2020

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to approve items C-1 thru C-3. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

4. Tax Release Journal – March 2020

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to approve item C-4. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

5. Resolution in support of Sans Souci Ferry – NCDOT

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to approve item C-5. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

6. Approval of Holland Consulting Planners, Inc. Work Authorization #6

Commissioner Bazemore made a **MOTION** to approve item C-6. Commissioner Trent and Vice Chairman Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

7. Approval of Capital Improvement Plan – re: PARTF grant

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to approve item C-7. The item can be changed as the project moves forward. Vice Chair Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**Budget Amendments & Updates from Finance Director William Roberson**

Finance Director, William Roberson, noted several budget amendments.

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to approve both budget amendments. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Mr. Roberson also reported there's still no word yet about Bertie County's sales tax revenues.

The budget amendments and supporting documentation are included here:

BUDGET AMENDMENT				
# 20-09				
INCREASE			INCREASE	
10-0025-4433-25	\$	2,500	10-5860-5400-13	\$ 2,500
TO SETUP BUDGET FOR PERDUE GRANT AWARDED TO COA FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY AFTER THE CRISIS RESOLVES				
INCREASE			INCREASE	
10-0025-4583-01	\$	8,450	CHILDREN MATTERS	10-6100-5695-62 \$ 6,500
			TEEN COURT	10-6100-5695-50 \$ 1,200
			SECOND CHANCE	10-6100-5695-79 \$ 750
TO INCREASE JCPC FUNDING TO MATCH DISCRETIONARY (EXPANSION) FUNDING AWARD				
APPROVED ___ / ___ /2020				

BUDGET AMENDMENT				
# 20-09				
INCREASE			INCREASE	
10-0025-4583-01	\$	8,450	CHILDREN MATTERS	10-6100-5695-62 \$ 6,500
			TEEN COURT	10-6100-5695-50 \$ 1,200
			SECOND CHANCE	10-6100-5695-79 \$ 750
TO INCREASE JCPC FUNDING TO MATCH DISCRETIONARY (EXPANSION) FUNDING AWARD				







FRANKLIN P. AND ARTHUR W. PERDUE FOUNDATION, INC.

April 16, 2020

Bertie County Center on Aging  
103 W. School Street  
Windsor, NC 27983

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, Inc. is pleased to enclose a check in the amount of \$2,500 for COVID-19 Response of Your Organization and Recovery After the Crisis Resolves administered by the Bertie County Center on Aging. This grant is subject to the terms set forth in the attached Grant Terms and Conditions and, by cashing the grant check, you are indicating that you agree to its terms.

We welcome you to re-apply for the grant for the kitchen construction after the Covid-19 Crisis resolves.

Please send any receipts, grant confirmations or other correspondence regarding this contribution to the fax number or mailing address specified below.

The Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, Inc. wishes you and your organization every success in your important work during this time. If you have any questions concerning this grant agreement, please contact Foundation Source, the administrator for the Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, Inc., at 1-800-839-1821.

Sincerely,

Foundation Source  
Administrator, Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, Inc.

Address for expressions of your organization's appreciation of this grant	Fax number for grant receipts and confirmations
Kim R. Nechay c/o Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, Inc. PO Box 1537 Salisbury, MD 21802	Fax: (203) 549-0835

(203)

FRANKLIN P. AND ARTHUR W. PERDUE FOUNDATION, INC.  
GRANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Grant Amount: \$2,500.00

Grant Recipient: Bertie County Center on Aging (the "Grantee")

- a. **Tax-Exempt Status of the Grantee:** The Grantee is an exempt governmental unit treated as a public organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 509(a)(1).
- b. **Grant Purpose and Expenditure of Funds:** The Grantee agrees to apply the grant funds exclusively toward COVID-19 Response of Your Organization and Recovery After the Crisis Resolves, as administered by the Grantee. The grant funds are not to be used for any other purpose without the Foundation's prior approval in writing. However, if such use would require the Grantee to distribute the grant funds without the Grantee's discretion to another entity or individual, this grant will be deemed general and unrestricted with a non-binding recommendation that the grant funds be used for the specified purpose. The Grantee further agrees to use the grant proceeds only for educational, scientific, literary, religious or other charitable purposes consistent with the Grantee's above described tax-exempt status. The Grantee will not use any of the grant funds to influence any legislation or the outcome of any election, to conduct a voter registration drive, or to pay the overhead expenses attributed to any such activities. Additionally, the Grantee will not use any of the grant funds to satisfy a charitable pledge or obligation of any person or organization other than the Foundation, or to provide any tangible economic benefit to any Foundation manager or substantial contributor or their respective family members.
- c. **Return of Grant Funds:** The Grantee agrees to return any grant funds not expended for the purposes described above to the Foundation, c/o Foundation Source at 55 Walls Drive, Suite 302, Fairfield, CT 06824-5163. The rules governing private foundations also require the Grantee to return the enclosed grant if the Grantee is no longer recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as having the above described tax-exempt status.
- d. **Foundation Connection:** If the Foundation, its officers, directors, trustees, substantial contributors, and the family members of the foregoing individuals, acting separately or together, "controls" the Grantee, additional terms may apply. Here, the term "control" means the ability to require the Grantee to make or refrain from making an expenditure, or to perform (or prevent it from performing) any act which significantly affects its operations. While it is our understanding that the Grantee is not so controlled, if the Grantee believes otherwise, the Grantee agrees to notify the Foundation immediately and refrain from expending the grant funds until mutually agreed upon terms are reached. Any notification required under this paragraph shall be sent to the Foundation c/o Foundation Source at the above address.
- e. **Other Terms:** These Grant Terms and Conditions encompass the entire agreement between the Foundation and the Grantee, and supersede all previous understandings and agreements between the Foundation and the Grantee, whether oral or written. This grant is subject to these Grant Terms and Conditions; by cashing the grant check the Grantee indicates its agreement to these terms. The term "Foundation" means the foundation making this grant.



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice-Juvenile Community Programs

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Timothy D. Moose, Chief Deputy Secretary  
William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary  
Cindy Porterfield, Director

April 27, 2020

Dear Marcia Watford:

Congratulations! The Juvenile Community Programs Section is pleased to announce that the Children Matters Program in Bertie County, has been awarded discretionary funding in the amount of \$6,500 for FY 2019 - 2020! This award is to fund the request for recertification, certified training materials and Summer Camp. As a reminder, discretionary awards for the 2019-2020 are being treated as expansion funds and require no match unless the funds are used for the purchase of equipment or capital outlay (valued at \$500 or more with a useful life in excess of one year). In order to complete the award process, please access NCALLIES, complete a Program Agreement Revision, and prompt your Area Consultant via email once the revision is completed. If you have any questions or need technical assistance to complete the revision process, please contact your consultant.

We are providing this notification of discretionary fund award to your agency to ensure that all local approvals by the JCPC and local county commission boards may be accomplished. However, there may be some modifications to this process locally, given the effects of COVID-19 and direct impacts on public meetings. Please check with your local county government officials to ensure that all local actions taken to complete this process are in accordance with locally approved/adjusted protocols.

Please note the following timeline to ensure timely disbursement of discretionary fund awards:

- **April 30, 2020 (COB)** Discretionary Award Notifications made to providers/ JCPCs.
- **May 6, 2020 - May 22, 2020-** Programs/JCPCs awarded discretionary funds submit Program Agreement Revisions in NCALLIES for Consultant review, approval, and release for DocuSign electronic signatures.

*Note: Program providers must follow the practices of the local JCPC when requesting discretionary funds to insure that JCPCs and County Commission Boards have ample time to approve county allocation increases via discretionary awards.*

MAILING ADDRESS:  
4212 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4212  
[www.ncdps.gov](http://www.ncdps.gov)



An Equal Opportunity Employer

OFFICE LOCATION:  
3010 Hammond Business Place  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
Telephone: (919) 733-3388

- **May 25, 2020**- Deadline for completion of all DocuSign signatures. Programs completing all Program Agreement Revision DocuSign e-signatures prior to May 25<sup>th</sup> will be eligible for a May disbursement.
- **June 8, 2020**-Program Revisions with completed DocuSign e-signatures by June 8<sup>th</sup> (by close of business) will receive discretionary funds in the June disbursement. (Note: Failure to meet the June 8<sup>th</sup> DocuSign e-signature deadline may result in termination of the award of discretionary funds.)

Thank you for your continued investment in the youth and families of North Carolina through the valuable services that you offer, particularly during this time of significant challenges for our state and for the youth and families that we serve. It is our hope that this discretionary fund award will further enhance and offer the needed support for your agency to provide continuity of services for our juveniles and their families.

Kind regards,



Cindy Porterfield, Director  
Juvenile Community Programs

Cc: JCPC Chairperson  
County Finance Officer



## North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice-Juvenile Community Programs

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Timothy D. Moose, Chief Deputy Secretary  
William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary  
Cindy Porterfield, Director

April 27, 2020

Dear Bonnie Powell:

Congratulations! The Juvenile Community Programs Section is pleased to announce that the Conflict Resolutions Teen Court Program has been awarded discretionary funding in the amount of \$1,200 for FY 2019 - 2020! This award is to fund the request for a lap top and mobile hotspot. As a reminder, discretionary awards for the 2019-2020 are being treated as expansion funds and require no match unless the funds are used for the purchase of equipment or capital outlay (valued at \$500 or more with a useful life in excess of one year). In order to complete the award process, please access NCALLIES, complete a Program Agreement Revision, and prompt your Area Consultant via email once the revision is completed. If you have any questions or need technical assistance to complete the revision process, please contact your consultant.

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Cindy Porterfield, Director  
Juvenile Community Programs

Cc: JCPC Chairperson  
County Finance Officer



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice-Juvenile Community Programs

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Timothy D. Moose, Chief Deputy Secretary  
William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary  
Cindy Porterfield, Director

April 27, 2020

Dear Olivia Taylor,

Congratulations! The Juvenile Community Programs Section is pleased to announce that the Second Chance Counts Program in Bertie County, has been awarded **discretionary funding** in the amount of **\$750** for FY 2019 - 2020! This award is to fund the request for a laptop and mobile hotspot.. As a reminder, discretionary awards for the 2019-2020 are being treated as expansion funds and require no match unless the funds are used for the purchase of equipment or capital outlay (valued at \$500 or more with a useful life in excess of one year). In order to complete the award process, please access NCALLIES, complete a Program Agreement Revision, and prompt your Area Consultant via email once the revision is completed. If you have any questions or need technical assistance to complete the revision process, please contact your consultant.

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Kind regards,



Cindy Porterfield, Director  
Juvenile Community Programs

Cc: JCPC Chairperson  
County Finance Officer



**First read: proposed Board of Commissioners rules, policies, and procedures**

Mr. Vaughan noted that this item was in response to concerns raised after the Board's April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was noted that this was a first draft and that changes could be suggested and made.

The Board briefly discussed the proposed set of rules, policies, and procedures.

Chairman Wesson requested feedback from the County Attorney.

County Attorney Smith noted that these particular rules, policies, and procedures would only apply under a State of Emergency per new statutes from the NC General Assembly. He recommended that the Board add a statement to this policy reflecting that.

Commissioners Trent and Bazemore were asked for their thoughts on this draft of the rules, policies, and procedures.

Commissioner Bazemore noted that she did not have a problem with the rules as drafted.

Commissioner Trent had no concerns about the draft as presented.

County Attorney Smith noted that item could be approved as long as it does not conflict with the NC General Assembly's new amendments

Commissioner Bazemore made a **MOTION** to approve the policy as presented with the exception that a statement would be added to clarify the policy would only be effective under a State of Emergency. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Commissioner Trent inquired if our meetings could always be broadcasted on Zoom even after the effects of COVID-19 subside in our area.

The Board briefly discussed this idea and would make further plans in the coming months.

## **COVID-19 Update and discussion of Stay at Home Order expiration by Emergency Services Director Mitch Cooper**

Emergency Services Director, Mitch Cooper, noted that 48 cases had been confirmed in Bertie County. Currently 15 of those are active, 31 are recovered, and 2 individuals have died.

In preparation for May 8<sup>th</sup> and the Governor's plan to reopen North Carolina's economy, Mr. Cooper noted that Phase One would not change much for our local area, and that his recommendation was to keep county offices closed through Phase One.

He cautioned that our county is still seeing a consistent uptick in cases, and that Bertie is considered a high-risk county with over 4,000 households living below the poverty level. In addition, 2,000 households are also receiving food assistance, and we have one of the fastest growing aging populations in the State of NC.

Commissioner Trent noted that he agreed with Mr. Cooper's assessment, and that he would like to see each county make their own decisions based on their own numbers and risk categories.

Commissioner Bazemore, Vice Chairman Lee, and Chairman Wesson supported Mr. Cooper's recommendation as well.

## **Discussion of 2020 River Fest scheduled for June 6th**

The Board had previously scheduled the Bertie River Fest event for Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Chairman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lee expressed concerns about large crowds especially during the COVID-19 pandemic as it related to Governor Cooper's reopening plan.

Commissioner Bazemore noted that it seemed to be too early to consider this event, but that it should not deter opening the park on time for summer beach season. She added that she would like to see committed funding for the event be reallocated to making needed repairs to the beach, road access, and other projects making it more accessible to the public.

Commissioner Atkins stated he would like to see the event postponed until June 2021.

Commissioner Lee thanked the Board for their hard work, but felt that the event should not move forward on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Wesson added that there was still a possibility that an event could be held later in the year, or not, if desired by the Board.

## **Commissioners' Reports (E)**

### **Commissioner Trent**

Commissioner Trent reiterated the requests he has been receiving about Board meetings always being available on Zoom.

He noted he had received concerns from Lewiston-Woodville, and that the town did not feel they were being appropriately informed as it related to the 2020 Census. They also reported that they have not yet received surveys in that area, or in several other parts of West Bertie.

Commissioner Trent also inquired if the County's audit was available, and if not, when could it become available.

He inquired if a notice could be included with County water or tax bills to alert everyone in the county of the information.

Chair Wesson noted that citizens do not have to wait to receive their surveys, and that citizens are able to go online to complete the survey. Citizens can also utilize a phone number to complete the Census.

The phone number to complete the survey in English: 1-844-330-2020

The phone number to complete the survey in Spanish: 1-844-468-2020

The website to complete the survey online (without a code): [2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov).

### **Commissioner Bazemore**

Commissioner Bazemore asked for the rest of her fellow Board members to consider hosting a virtual town hall meeting. The meeting could discuss updates with the school system, looking ahead to the future, and possibly hearing from a local citizen who has since recovered from COVID-19.

She also reported that USDA would soon be distributing boxes of fruits and vegetables to Bertie citizens. Ms. Bazemore publicly thanked Mr. Ron Roberson and Mr. Mitch Nicholson for allowing the items to be stored in their building until citizens are able to pick them up.

Lastly, she noted that she would like to see the County host a memorial service for those that have passed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who suffered from the disease and passed away, or those who passed away and their families were not able to host funerals during the Stay at Home Order.

### **Chairman Wesson**

Chairman Wesson noted that the County would receive significant food support for distribution county-wide. Communities that are particularly food insecure would be most qualified to receive these donations. Many area food banks will be participating.

Chair Wesson then read a statement about how the current COVID-19 situation may affect the upcoming budget cycle. He thanked Governor Cooper and the NC General Assembly for working to address the “safety net” for counties after federal support has been expended.

He continued by stating that the County is very fortunate to have organizations and church groups that have been working around the clock to provide additional support to those in Bertie County. He encouraged all citizens to look for ways to help during this time of crisis. He stated that “small things can make a really big difference” in times of pain and struggle.

#### **Vice Chair Lee**

Tomorrow, May 5<sup>th</sup>, the mobile food pantry will be hosted in Powellsville at 11:00 AM. Also, tomorrow AT 10:00 AM, an event will be held at the carpentry shop in Ahoskie. Citizens looking to obtain excess sweet potatoes are able to receive those for free.

She also reported that she had just been appointed to the Board of the Directors, NC Association of County Commissioners. Vice Chair Lee noted that she honored to represent North Carolina and Bertie County in this capacity.

#### **County Manager’s Reports (F)**

Mr. Vaughan had no remarks at this time.

### **County Attorney's Reports (G)**

County Attorney Smith noted that the Board hosted tonight's meeting in compliance with the new guidelines passed by the NC General Assembly. He further discussed the new statutes and how it compares to the policy just passed by the Board.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments submitted online via Zoom chat, Facebook post, or via email to the Clerk to the Board.

However, Vice Chair Lee asked if mass, drive thru testing was being conducted. Mr. Cooper noted that the state was not conducting mass testing, but drive thru testing centers are popping up in various areas of the State. The nearest drive thru testing facility for symptomatic citizens or health care workers is in Pitt County at Walmart.

Vice Chairman Lee made a **MOTION** to go into Closed Session pursuant to **N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)**. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Vice Chair Lee made a **MOTION** to go into Closed Session pursuant to **N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3)** to go into closed session 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 Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Board shifted into Closed Session.

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

**ADJOURN**

Vice Chair Lee made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:30 PM. Commissioner Atkins **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

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Ronald Wesson, Chairman

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Sarah Tinkham, Clerk to the Board