

Windsor, North Carolina
March 6, 2023
COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting today at 6:00PM inside the Commissioners Room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. Because of 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
 Corey Ballance, Sr., District III
 Ronald “Ron” Roberson, District V
 John Trent, District IV

Absent: Michael White, District II

Staff Present: County Manager Juan Vaughan, II
 Assistant County Manager David Scarborough
 County Attorney Jonathan Huddleston
 Finance Director William Roberson

Staff Present : Clerk to the Board LaShonda Cartwright

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wesson called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Trent gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

NCGS § 138a-15(e)

Commissioner Wesson read the North Carolina State Ethics Act into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)

There were no comments.

REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS (A)

1. Introduction by Senator Bobby Hanig

Senator Hanig was unable to attend.

2. Presentation by NC Department of Transportation

NCDOT presented the Board with the details of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). There was no vote or decision needed by the Board at this time.

3. Presentation of revised Master Plan for Occano by Planning & Inspections Director Traci White

Director White came before the Board to request approval for the revised Master Plan for Occano per the Planning Board's recommendation.

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to approve the revised Master Plan for Occano. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Balance. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

4. Presentation of Animal Shelter Assessment by Bill Daggett, DWG Architects

The Assistant County Manager David Scarborough explained to the Board the need for the new animal shelter. Mr. Scarborough explained to the Board the process and steps that have been taken to get the animal shelter project to this point. He recognized Animal Control Officer Skip Dunlow and Maintenance Director Rascoe, who were both in attendance, and thanked them for their assistance in this process.

The Board was provided a presentation by Bill Daggett with statistical information relating to the current animal shelter, its occupancy and the architectural plans for the new shelter.

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to move forward with the smaller architectural plans. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wesson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

5. Presentation of Audit for FY 2021-22 by Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A.

Austin Eubanks presented the Board with the findings of the Audit for FY 2021-22. Mr. Eubanks stated to the Board that the County is well below the 20% threshold required by the LGC therefore the County will remain on the Unit Assist List.

Mr. Eubanks stated to the Board that reducing expenditures could help build up the County's Fund Balance.

6. Financial Summary by Finance Director William Roberson

Mr. Roberson provided the Board with an updated summary of the County finances. Mr. Roberson highlighted a few line items in his summary for the Board. The final projections showed the County was heading in a good direction in relation to its finances.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS (B)

There were no Board appointments.

CONSENT AGENDA (C)

1. Approve Register of Deeds Fees Report – February 2023
2. Approve Minutes 12-5-22
3. Approve Minutes Open & Closed Session 1-19-23
4. Approve Minutes Open & Closed Session 2- 6-23

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to approve Consent Agenda items 1-4. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

5. Resolution Requesting Revision and Expansion the Good Samaritan Law

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to approve the resolution. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ballance. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

6. Resolution Authorizing Execution of Opioid Settlements & Approving Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds

Commissioner Roberson made the **MOTION** to approve the resolution. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ballance. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

7. Approve Mid-East ARPA Funding

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to approve the resolution. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

8. Budget Amendments

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to approve the resolution. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

9. Project Amendments

Commissioner Roberson made the **MOTION** to approve the resolution. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Trent. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

OTHER ITEMS
DISCUSSION AGENDA (A)

1. Identification of Top Priorities for Congressionally Directed Spending

Project Consultant Robin Payne along with the Board discussed the top five priorities for the County to submit for funding.

2. Review List of Surplus Property

Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea presented the Board with an updated list of Surplus Property. The Board discussed in detail the properties that they wished to sell and the properties they wished to keep.

Mr. Rhea will provide the Board with a final update at the March 20th Work Session.

3. Schedule Convening of the Board of Equalization and Review

The Board and Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea set the dates to Convene as the Board of Equalization and Review. The first scheduled meeting to was set for Monday, April 3rd at 6:00 PM and the final meeting was set for April 17th at 10:00 AM.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS (E)

Commissioner Roberson

Commissioner Roberson recognized the Bertie High School Boys Falcon basketball team for having a great season.

Commissioner Trent

No Reports.

Commissioner Wesson

Commissioner Wesson wants the Board to consider the upcoming Medicaid Expansion. He stated they would discuss the Medicaid Expansion details further in the March 20th Work Session.

Commissioner Ballance

No reports.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS (F)

There were no reports.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS (G)

There were no reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)

There were no public comments.

CLOSED SESSION
PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)(6)

Commissioner Ballance made the **MOTION** to go into Closed Session. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Trent. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

OPEN SESSION

The Board returned back to open session, there were no further matters to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Trent made the **MOTION** to adjourn. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a **4-0** vote.

The meeting adjourned.

Ronald Wesson, Chair

ATTEST:

LaShonda Cartwright, Clerk