

Bertie County, North Carolina
June 16, 2025
COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for a Work Session on June 16, 2025 at 4:00 PM inside the Commissioners Meeting Room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. The following members were present or absent:

Present: Chair, Corey Ballance, Sr., District III
 Vice-Chair, Lewis Hoggard, III, District I
 Ronald "Ron" Roberson, District V
 Vivian Saunders, District IV
 Michael White, District II

Staff Present: County Manager, Juan Vaughan, II
 Assistant County Manager, David Scarborough
 Finance Director, Willie Mack Carawan
 Clerk to the Board, Tonya Davis
 Network Administrator, DaShawn Clark

CONVENE MEETING FROM JUNE 12, 2025

Chair Ballance called the meeting to order.

DISCUSSION

County Manager Vaughan stated that during the Work Session on June 12, 2025 a few options were made to balance the budget. There were some questions as to whether a one-time bonus could be provided to employees. County Manager Vaughan said that Finance Director, Willie Mack Carawan, was trying to perform some calculations to determine if that would be possible, but was not able to conclude that during that meeting.

Before going any further, Register of Deeds, Annie Wilson, asked to make a comment to the Board. Ms. Wilson wanted to state that she noticed in the Register of Deeds travel allotment that it was cut \$3,000 and wanted to inform the Board that the travel is needed. Ms. Wilson stated that she has four conferences that she attends along with other workshops and district meetings. She mentioned that Bertie County is not a birthing county. Bertie County now has an electronic system where the Register of Deeds office can now provide citizens the option to get birth and death certificates from other counties and states. Ms. Wilson stated that travel expenses have risen and without the travel fund, her department will not be able to attend and obtain the necessary training.

Finance Director, Willie Mack Carawan, provided the Board with a Budget Report as of June 16, 2025.

County Manager Vaughan stated that the Budget ordinance needs to be finalized. County Manager mentioned that \$81,419 is needed to balance the budget. There were three options that were mentioned. Option one, was \$81,419 just to balance the budget. Option two, was \$81,419 plus 1% salary increase for employees which totaled \$206,000. Option three, was \$81,419 plus 2% salary increase for employees which totaled \$330,000. The Board debating between option one and option two.

Chair Ballance recommended giving \$2,000 back to the Register of Deeds travel allotment. The board agreed. The total to balance the budget is now \$83,419.

Commissioner Roberson recommended option two and to reduce the public school's budget and EMS overtime budget by \$30,000.

Commissioner White recommended taking \$54,000 from the IT departments budget for the website.

The Board agreed to reduce the Governing Body travel budget by \$8,419.

The Board decided to eliminate \$40,000 related to the Republic Service Convenience Site Contract.

Chair Ballance proposed to reduce the school systems budget by \$83,419 to balance the budget.

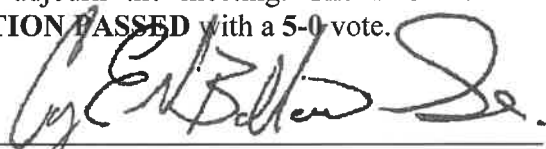
Commissioner Saunders recommended pulling the balance needed from Special Projects.

Vice-Chair Hoggard stated that he would not vote to take any funds from the school system.

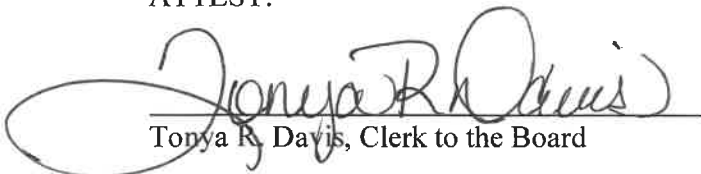
The Board decided to continue their budget discussion at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Roberson made the **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Saunders. The **MOTION PASSED** with a 5-0 vote.


Chair, Corey Ballance, Sr.
Bertie County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Tonya R. Davis, Clerk to the Board