

**Windsor, North Carolina**  
**March 13, 2017**  
**Work Session**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners reconvened their regular meeting from Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> today inside the Commissioners Room located at 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. The following members were present or absent:

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  
                  Finance Officer William Roberson

**WORK SESSION**

**Reconvene**

Chairman Trent **RECONVENED** the meeting from March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Board of Education Finance Review**

The County Manager distributed two attachments. The first being a 11x17 packet of information comparing several different funding avenues for North Carolina schools, as well as the appropriation of funding per pupil.

The second hand out was the presentation received from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Bertie County School Board.

The Board discussed their concerns, as well as shared comments that they had received from concerned parents.

Additionally, the Board talked about drafting a list of questions to ask at the upcoming meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> where Board of Education, Board of Commissioners, and members from the NC Department of Public Instruction, and the NC Local Government Commission will meet jointly.

## LUNCH

The Board took a break for lunch between 12:00 and 12:30 PM.

## JROTC

After some discussion, Commissioner White made a **MOTION** to make a \$750.00 donation to the Annual JROTC Military Ball. This is consistent with last year's donation to the same event. Commissioner Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** in a 3-2 vote, with Vice Chairman Bazemore and Commissioner Lee voting against.

The date for the event has not yet been received.

### **Preliminary Budget Discussions – Dr. Jimmy Tate, President of RCCC**

Dr. Jimmy Tate, President of RCCC, and David Forester, Chief Finance Officer, were present to participate in a preliminary budget discussion for the upcoming FY2017-2018 budget.

Dr. Tate discussed the College's short term goals including increased enrollment, expansion of degree and certificate programs, as well as evaluation of current services.

He also briefly discussed the College's efforts to work with Martin Community College and the current service boundaries in place.

Lastly, Dr. Tate discussed the College's latest project to secure a building for a satellite RCCC campus within Bertie County, and the Board offered suggestions of buildings that could possibly fit the College's needs.

There was also a brief discussion between members of Martin Community College as they arrived for their presentation regarding collaboration over service boundaries and program offerings.

The Board encouraged both colleges to work together as much as possible to ensure citizens of the County are receiving all needed services as conveniently as possible.

The Board also inquired about internship opportunities for students to aid in an easier transition from graduation into the workforce. Dr. Tate mentioned that a Summer Youth Entrepreneurship Workshop will be hosted for students and businesses this summer that could aid in bridging the gap.

**Preliminary Budget Discussions – Dr. Ken Boham, Interim President of  
MCC, Norman Cherry, Director of the Bertie-Martin Campus, and  
Mr. Steve Taylor, Dean of Administration**

Dr. Ken Boham, Interim President of MCC, as well as Norman Cherry, Director of the Bertie-Martin Campus, and Mr. Steve Taylor, Dean of Administration were present to discuss their needs for the upcoming budget year.

Dr. Boham discussed his goals for the College which were to find a way to more efficiently bridge the gap between students in high school, and their admission to MCC for continuing education, degree programs, etc.

He also discussed the collaborative efforts he had spearheaded with other colleges and universities in previous counties, and stated that he also found collaboration to be the best plan of action for all involved, especially the students.

The Board thanked members of RCCC and MCC for their time, and their willingness to work together, and also encouraged both schools to reach out if they find that they have any other specific needs outside of their annual funding allotments.

**RECESS**

Chairman Trent **RECESSED** this meeting until 10:00 AM on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> in the same location.

---

John Trent, Chairman

---

Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board