

**Windsor, North Carolina**  
**October 3, 2022**  
**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 ( <b>Zoom</b> ) Greg Atkins, District II Tammy A. Lee, District III Ronald “Ron” Roberson, District V John Trent, District IV
Staff Present:	County Manager Juan Vaughan, II` Assistant County Manager David Scarborough Assistant County Attorney Jonathan Huddleston Finance Director William Roberson
Staff Present (Zoom):	Clerk to the Board LaShonda Cartwright HR/Risk Management Director Cortney Ward

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Trent called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Ron Roberson gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER)**

There were no public comments.

**REPORTS & APPOINTMENTS**

1. Bertie County Community Collaborative Presentation by Marcia Watford

System of Care Coordinator with Trillium Health Resources Hope Eley stood before the Board to provide them with a brief history of System of Care. She stated to the Board that the Bertie Collaborative currently meets at the Health Department at 1:30 PM on the second Tuesday of every month. She then introduced the Board Chair Marcia Watford.

Board Chair Marcia Watford stated to the Board that they wanted to introduce the Bertie Collaborative and ask the Board of Commissioners for their support in spreading the word in the communities to let the citizens know that the County does have a Collaborative. She invited everyone in the community to come out and see what services that the Collaborative has to offer, and then explained the resources and services that are provided by the Collaborative.

Commissioner Trent if they could get some business cards that would help them out a great deal in assisting with spreading the word about the Collaborative.

#### Reports from Tax Administrator Jodie Rhea

##### a. Request for Approval of Late Application for Property Use Value

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **Approve** the Late Application for Property Use Value. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

##### b. Request for Approval to Release Deferred Taxes

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **Approve** the Release Deferred Taxes. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

#### 2. 2022 General Election Update by LaToya Peele, Bertie County Elections Director

Elections Director LaToya Peele came before the Board to provide and update on the 2022 General Elections. She informed the Commissioners that Elections season started for them on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and provided the Board with important dates and deadlines for the upcoming elections.

<b>Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Voter Registration Deadline.
<b>Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Party Change Deadline.
<b>Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup></b>	One-stop in-person early voting begins.
<b>Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Absentee ballot request deadline.
<b>Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup></b>	In-person early voting and registration ends at 3:00 PM.
<b>Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup></b>	General Election Day
<b>Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup></b>	County Canvass Day.
<b>Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup></b>	State Canvass Day.

She also informed the Commissioners that sample ballots are available for the citizens.

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

There were no Board Appointments.

### **CONSENT AGENDA (C)**

#### 1. Approve Resolution for Operation Green Light for Veterans

Commissioner Roberson made the **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the Resolution for Operation Green Light for Veterans. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lee. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

#### 2. CRAVE Project Funding for Courtroom Cabling for Remote Proceedings

Chairman Trent stated that the CRAVE Project Funding for Courtroom Cabling for Remote Proceedings has been **TABLED**, as there was other information on its way to them and the County Manager will receive that information and hopefully have it available for the next meeting which will be on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### 3. Project Amendment

County Manager Vaughan stated that this Project Amendment was in reference to the Opioid Funds that the County had received, and if the Commissioner's had any questions about the Project Amendment, Finance Officer William Roberson was available to explain.

Commissioner Trent asked if they had received a better explanation on how those funds could be used.

Mr. Vaughan stated that there were some upcoming meetings to help them to identify or come up with ways that the funds could be used, and that all they knew at this moment was that the funds had to be used for fighting the opioid addiction crisis.

Commissioner Lee stated that the NCACC also had help available if the County needed assistance with the spending of the funds.

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the Project Amendment. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

### **OTHER ITEMS** **DISCUSSION AGENDA (D)**

#### 1. Facility Use Agreement for the Community Meeting Room

Commissioner Roberson asked if they could **TABLE** the discussion of the Facility Use Agreement for the Community Meeting Room until the next meeting.

Commissioner Trent asked for a **MOTION**.

Commissioner Wesson stated that according to County Manager Vaughan this was on the Agenda just for discussion and not for the purpose of obtaining a vote.

Commissioner Roberson made the **MOTION** to table the Facility Use Agreement for the Community Room until the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Lee **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

## 2. 2023 Holiday Schedule and Commissioners Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the 2023 Holiday Schedule and Commissioners Meeting Schedule. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

## 3. 2022 Employee Appreciation Luncheon

The Board formed a **CONSENSUS** to give gift cards to the employees to help support the local businesses in Bertie County.

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS (E)**

#### Commissioner Roberson

Commissioner Roberson stated that he really appreciated the employees in the County and they do an outstanding job. He then thanked the employees of Bertie County for all that they do.

#### Commissioner Lee

Commissioner Lee stated that she rode by the Long Branch Community in Colerain and she saw the project underway and it was exciting. She stated that finally the residents in that area will be able to get some relief and enjoy their backyards.

She had the opportunity to call Mr. Vic Thompson today and thank him, and then publicly thanked the Assistant County Manager David Scarborough for all of the work that he has done for this project.

She thanked everyone for keeping her in their prayers.

#### Commissioner Trent

Commissioner Trent stated that a lot of the thank you for the Long Branch project needs to go to Commissioner Lee. She was the big push on having the Long Branch project done and it was a lot of work done on her part and she did a great job.

Commissioner Atkins

Commissioner Atkins did not have anything to report.

Commissioner Wesson

Commissioner Wesson welcomed Commissioner Lee back and stated that everyone was delighted to have her back. He thanked Commissioner Lee's husband Vernon for taking such good care of her.

He stated last week they had received a \$100,000 grant for the Teacher Housing project. He shared that they have already received the check from the Department of Education who has also promised additional support in the implementation of making the Teacher Housing project a reality.

He noted that Senator Bazemore was instrumental in helping the County to receive those funds.

He stated that on Thursday of last week he was inducted into the Golden Rams Club at the University of North Carolina, representing 50 years as a graduate from the university, and noted that he received special recognition for helping to change State Law when he was on the campus of University of North Carolina.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS (F)**

There were no County Manager's Reports.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS (G)**

There were no County Attorney's Reports.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS** **3 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER**

There were no public comments.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) (6)**

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to go into Closed Session. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

**OPEN SESSION**

Commissioner Lee mad the **MOTION** that the County join the (MDL) Multi-District Litigation lawsuit against Mackenzie. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

There were no other items that needed to be discussed.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **ADJOURN** the meeting. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

The meeting was adjourned.

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John Trent, Chairman

ATTEST:

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LaShonda Cartwright, Clerk to the Board