

**BERTIE COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
May 23, 2022
Budget Presentation & Budget Work Session**

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners held its Budget Presentation & Budget Work Session Monday, May 23, 2022 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 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 County Attorney Lloyd Smith Finance Director William Roberson
Staff Present (Zoom):	Clerk to the Board LaShonda Cartwright

Call to Order

Chairman Trent called the meeting to order.

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

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

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT GRANT FOR TGOW PHASE
II WETLANDS**

Project Consultant Robin Payne came before the Board to ask for approval of a grant for the amount of \$285,000 for the North Carolina Attorney General’s Office for the Tall Glass of Water project.

Commissioner Lee made the **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the grant in the amount of \$285,000. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wesson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

Project Consultant Robin Payne then stated to the Board that the Tall Glass of Water Phase I pre-bid meeting is on May 26th at 2:00 PM on Zoom.

Project Consultant Robin Payne then stated in June they need to review Phase II of Tall Glass of Water in preparation for a Land and Water Preservation Grant.

NC FOREST SERVICE BUDGET REQUEST
Bertie County Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman

Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman introduced himself to the Board and provided the Board with some updates. Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman stated that in March they had two big fires in the County that totaled and estimated \$22,000 in cost.

Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman provided the Board with a Cost Share update and further stated that this year they have paid out a little over \$212,000 to land owners.

Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman noted that in Bertie County according to the North Carolina State Extension Bertie County was number one in income delivered with a value of over \$40M dollars.

The Board then thanked Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman and the Forestry service for all of the work they were doing in the County.

Commissioner Wesson asked Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman for any recommendations that he may have to continue to improve the County.

Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman stated “Yes”. Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman stated that in their budget they are requesting an additional IA truck. Forest Ranger Dave Hoffman stated this new IA truck would replace the truck that they currently have.

BERTIE COUNTY SCHOOLS BUDGET PRESENTATION FOR AY 2022-23
DR. OTIS SMALLWOOD, SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Dr. Otis Smallwood presented a budget on behalf of the entire Bertie County School System. (See presentation) [5-23-22 Attachments\2022-23 BCS_Budget Presentation to Commissioners.pptx](#)

County Manager Vaughan stated to the Board that they should discuss the transfer of school from the County back to the school system.

Commissioner Wesson made the **MOTION** for the schools in question to go back to the School Board. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

Commissioner Trent then stated that the County Attorney already had the deeds drawn up.

FY 2022-23 BERTIE COUNTY BUDGET PRESENTATION

County Manager Vaughan presented the Board with the FY 2022-23 Budget Presentation.

County Manager Vaughan stated that they have another balanced budget and it this time he is not proposing a tax increase.

(See Link)<C:\Users\lcartwright1\Desktop\5-23-22 Attachments\FY 22-23 Budget Presentation.pdf>

RECESS (LUNCH)

The Board **RECESSED** for lunch.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3)(5)(6)

The Board then went into **CLOSED SESSION**.

OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Trent stated that they were now back in **OPEN SESSION**.

Commissioner Trent stated that they have a Board appointment for the Department of Social Services Board. Commissioner Trent asked County Manager Vaughan who were the two applicants that expressed interest in joining the Department of Social Services Board.

County Manager Vaughan stated that the two applicants were Attorney Peggy Smith and Ms. Vernetta Henderson.

Commissioner Roberson **NOMINATED** Ms. Vernetta Henderson.

County Manager Vaughan asked the Board for a **ROLL CALL** vote for Attorney Peggy Smith.

Commissioner Roberson	No
Commissioner Lee	Yes
Commissioner Trent	Yes
Commissioner Wesson	Yes
Commissioner Atkins	Yes

County Manager Vaughan stated that Attorney Peggy Smith has now been **APPOINTED** to the Board of DSS.

BUDGET REVIEW & DISCUSSION

County Manager Vaughan went over the purposed Budget line item by line item with the Board.

The Board discussed each line item thoroughly.

OTHER ITEMS

County Manager Vaughan stated that he did not have any other items.

Assistant County Manager Scarborough stated that he did not have any other items.

Finance Director William Roberson stated that he did not have any other items.

County Manager Vaughan stated that he did have one other item to discuss and that was the County has money in the ARPA Funds and he wanted to know if the Board was interested in considering the request for the IA Truck for Forestry in the amount of \$45,172.

Commissioner Trent asked what was the Board's pleasure.

Commissioner Wesson made the **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the money for the IA Truck for Forestry.
Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. The **MOTION PASSED** with a unanimous decision.

County Manager Vaughan stated that he would include this in their plan for ARPA Funds.

RECESS

The Board made the **CONSENSUS** not to **RECESS** due to them having completed their Budget Discussion.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting was Adjourned.

John Trent, Chairman of the Board

Attest:

LaShonda Cartwright, Clerk to the Board