

Windsor, North Carolina
June 8, 2026
BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Bertie County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 10:00 AM inside the Commissioners' room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. This meeting was hosted partially in person and partially via Zoom (conference call). 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
Clerk to the Board, Tonya Davis
Finance Director, Willie Carawan
Network Administrator, Dashawn Clark

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Corey Ballance, Sr. called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Vivian Saunders gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Manager Vaughan provided the Board with a brief update from the Budget Work Session held on Monday, June 1, 2026. He stated that all funds had been reviewed except for the General Fund.

The Board discussed various county funds, including the Fire District Fund, which is projected to generate approximately \$500,000. Under the proposed budget, \$35,000 would be allocated to each fire department.

Finance Director Willie Carawan informed the Board that, at the direction of DSS Director Yolanda White, two positions within the Department of Social Services would not be filled during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Chair Ballance asked Mr. Carawan about the cost of the County's leased vehicles. Mr. Carawan stated that the County spends approximately \$400,000 annually on leased vehicles and that the buyout cost would be approximately \$720,000.

Chair Ballance asked EMS Director John Rawls how often EMS vehicles should be replaced. Mr. Rawls stated that EMS vehicles should generally be replaced every six to seven years.

The Board continued reviewing the County Manager's proposed General Fund budget, including the Governing Board, Administration, Human Resources, Finance, Tax, Legal, Court Facilities, Elections, Register of Deeds, and Information Technology departments. County Manager Vaughan also informed the Board that Sheriff Ruffin had requested funding for a bulletproof vest program and maintenance contracts.

Vice-Chair Hoggard asked how many public buildings the County owns and how those buildings are currently being used. County Manager Vaughan stated that he did not have that information available at the time but would gather the information and provide it to the Board.

Chair Ballance asked Mr. Rawls how many heart monitors EMS currently has. Mr. Rawls stated that EMS has 11 heart monitors, all of which are outdated, and that replacement parts are no longer available. He estimated that approximately \$70,000 would be needed to replace the monitors. Mr. Rawls also informed the Board that he had no way of knowing how much longer the current heart monitors would remain operational.

The Board continued reviewing the proposed budget for other County departments.

Chair Ballance asked the Board to consider a 1.5% cost of living salary increase for employees, provide \$30,000 for Mr. Rawls to purchase new heart monitors, and provide an additional \$80,923 in appropriations to Bertie County Schools.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Saunders made the **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Roberson. 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