

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 4, 2024**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024 in the Commissioners Boardroom in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Jordan, Chairman
Barry Overman, Vice-Chairman
Jonathan Meads
Sam Davis
Clifford Shaw

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Sean Lavin

OTHERS PRESENT: Sparty Hammett, County Manager
John Shannon, Assistant County Manager
Mike Cox, County Attorney
Mike Barclift, Management Fellow
Shelley Cox, Planning Director
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Charles Jordan. Vice-Chairman Barry Overman gave the invocation and Commissioner Jonathan Meads led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Jordan welcomed those in attendance.

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Barry Overman requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee to the Consent Agenda: 1) Approval of EMS Training Officer Reclassification; 2) Approval to Purchase Radio Programming Services and Capital Items for EMS; 3) Approval to Purchase Sheriff's Office Vehicles; 4) Approval of UNC School of Government Benchmarking Service Agreement; 5) Approval of Extension of National Guard Armory Lease and Transfer of Ownership to the City; 6) Approval of Request for Occupancy Tax Funds; 7) Approval of Revised Application for the SL2023-24 Water/Sewer Fund; 8) Denial of Request to Tie into Sewer Line on Northside Road; and adding the following item to New Business: 9) Recommendations from Appointments Committee.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sam Davis to amend the agenda to add Items #1-8 to the Consent Agenda and Item #9 to New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

2. SENTARA ALBEMARLE MEDICAL CENTER UPDATE:

Chairman Jordan called on Sentara Albemarle Medical Center President Teresa Watson to come forward to provide an update. Ms. Watson stated that is a privilege to come before the Board this evening. She explained that she that took over as president at Sentara Albemarle Medical Center in August. She came from a community about the same size and makeup of Pasquotank County. She loves it here. Ms. Watson introduced Beth DeLaney, SAMC Center Plant Engineer and Director of Operations.

Ms. Watson said they would like to share with the Board a couple of bright spots that are happening and address some of the questions around recruitment, because that's always of interest in the community. One of the privileges that she has had in her career is that she has not only built and moved a hospital one time, but has been able to do it twice in her career.

Ms. DeLaney stated that the new facility is going to be a health campus. It will have a medical center, with inpatient nursing units, as well as a medical office center. Within the medical center, there will be many centrally located physician practices, as well as cardiac rehab, a diagnostic center with outpatient x-rays and mammography, and a cancer center. They wanted the new facility to be patient centered, future focused, and efficient. The facility was designed for 10-year outpatient growth. It consolidates leased locations into one central building of 80,000 square feet and is connected to the hospital.

Registration, outpatient waiting rooms and visitor elevators are located just inside the main entrance. The building reflects the continued shift from inpatient to outpatient care driven by advances in clinical technology, treating patients in lower cost settings when appropriate, and consumer desire to avoid hospitals. The facility was constructed with a multipurpose space design and patient centered workflow. There is opportunity to add to the facility as needed in the future. She provided a timeline and said they anticipate the Medical Center opening in Fall 2025.

Phase I Tenants – July 2023

- Radiation Oncology, Family Practice, and Cardiac Rehab

Phase 1A Tenants – April 2024

- Lab Draws, PreOp Testing, Women’s Imaging, and Diagnostic Center

Phase 2 Tenants – Fall 2025

- General and Vascular Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Wound Care, Orthopedics, and ENT

The interior designers with their architectural firm used our farmlands and wetlands in the area to be their inspiration. They utilized blues, greens, and browns. They also brought in elements of the turbines, with pinwheels on the floor. Some of the words they used to describe it include calming, comforting, and organic. She provided illustrations. She noted that staff was very involved with the design. They met in large groups, which included physicians. They are now in the building stages. Rooms are mocked up and then frontline staff walk through them so they can make sure that they have located all of their elements of the room in a place that is convenient for them and for the family.

Ms. Watson said the hospital started out being \$174,000,000, and now they are up to \$255,000,000, because of the increases in cost of labor and supplies. She said they are still committed, without making any sacrifices.

They have welcomed three new physicians:

- Dr. Michael Shin, Orthopedic Surgeon, has started practicing in their orthopedics and sports medicine office.
- Beth Uzell, NCMW has joined Sentara Obstetrics & Gynecology and delivered her first baby at the hospital.
- Dr. Thomas Doolittle, a board-certified anesthesiologist, joined their Anesthesia team.

Ms. Watson said as she came in tonight, she heard about how hard it is to find primary care and the wait patients have. She said they recognize that is a problem and feel the pain. Currently, they are in recruitment for at least five primary care physicians, APPS, two cardiologist and two gastroenterologist positions. They are also trying to recruit obstetricians/gynecologist. They are starting to work with outside recruitment agencies that focus on rural communities. A recruitment video has been put together that shows the advantages of living in Pasquotank County or in our region.

Ms. Watson said Sentara Albemarle Medical Center was recognized at the state level as an Early Hearing Detection Partner of the Year for Northeastern NC. They care about a baby’s hearing and helping families get the care their baby needs. They also received American Heart Association and American Stroke Association’s joint “Get with the Guidelines (SWTG) Awards for providing excellent stroke care, ultimately leading to more lives saved and shorter recovery times. She noted that they are also a Breast Milk Center where you can drop off your breast milk.

Ms. Watson said they continue to recognize that staffing is important to healthcare. They have hired 178 new teammates. Sentara Health awarded \$356,000 in Sentara Care grants to local nonprofits in 2023. They have awarded \$1.9 million in grants to nonprofits and faith-based organizations in NC since 2021. Today, Sentara distributed 65 AEDs in the community, including the faith based community, ECSU, and COA. A \$150,000 gift for scholarships and funding for ECSU students seeking careers in the healthcare professions was provided. The scholarships are available for full-time students majoring in biology, psychology, kinesiology,

pharmaceutical science and social work. COA was provided a \$100,000 scholarship. She stated that they need to work more closely with our school system to garner an interest in healthcare at a much earlier age than high school for our students. Sentara has given right at \$300,000 in grants to support client choice pantries with the Food Bank, and about \$75,000 in grant support to the Community Teaching Kitchen.

3. NORTHEAST ACADEMY FOR AEROSPACE AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES (NEAAAT) PRESENTATION:

Chairman Jordan called on Dr. Andrew Harris, Chief Executive Office of NEAAAT, to provide an update.

Dr. Harris thanked the Board for the opportunity to present tonight. He said as you may know state law changed over the last legislative session, which will fundamentally shift the relationship that commissioners can have with the public charter schools in our state. He said he will start with what they have been up to the last nine years and a little bit about what that change could mean for NEAAAT.

Dr. Harris said everywhere he goes, he hears, “Are you from that NEAAAT School”. He said he believes there are a lot of misconceptions, such as they are a private school. He noted that they are very much a public school. Students are admitted by lottery and they have a very balanced demographic at their school. He hears things like “Is that an early college; isn’t that a career academy; or isn’t that a service learning school” and he has to say, “no, but we are a little bit of all of those things”. He stated that their mission is bigger than just your standard reading, writing, and arithmetic. Their goal since they opened is to prepare students with mindsets, skillsets, and toolsets to be prepared for the real world of work. That means, that the students will not only be able to demonstrate academic content knowledge and apply that knowledge, but they will have habits of mind to be productive in the real world and toolsets as well.

Dr. Harris said they have been very fortunate over the past 12 months to be selected among a handful of schools in our nation to partner with the Southern Regional Education Lab of the US Department of Education to develop their own local portrait of a graduate. He said what that means is they aim to graduate students whose skills go well beyond the traditional academic content knowledge. They want to make sure when students graduate they are ready for the real world and for the jobs that exist right here in Pasquotank County.

Dr. Harris said in doing that they have been fortunate over the past several years to partner with College of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City State University, and with local employers to build career pathways in four key areas to our local economy so that students know that there are jobs here for them in the area and to see a path that is really seamless to those jobs. Beginning as early as fifth grade, students are exposed to the kinds of jobs that are here and to academic content from those career sectors. By the time they get into high school, they are able to complete internships and complete college courses with their post-secondary partners, and then go seamlessly into local jobs in the area.

Dr. Harris said part of preparing students for the real world means that you have to get students out in the real world, and that is what they strive to do. Last year, their students benefited from over 8,000 hours of service to their school from their local business and industry partners and from their post-secondary partners. It is a really important part of what they do, as is their internship program. Just this year alone, they will have 97 students completing internships locally. Their goal is to have 100% of graduates from NEAAAT completing at least one internship with a local employer. He said if you look at the value, just in terms of dollars and cents in this community every year as a result of the labor their students perform onsite, it is over \$100,000.

Dr. Harris said he is very happy to share that they have 27 students so far who have been employed as a result of their internships. He stated that they are extremely proud of that and it speaks to preparing students for the real world of work, which is their mission, goal, and focus. They also strive to make sure that students are college ready, because they know many of the jobs that exist are going to require at least some college. Not all will require a four year degree. Some will require a two year degree or some may just require a certification from COA. They have been very intentional about the programs they offer.

Dr. Harris noted that 70-75% of their upper classmen every year complete hours through dual enrollment at COA. In fact, just in the 2023 graduating class at COA, almost 10% of all graduates were NEAAAT students. What that means to area families is over \$42,000 in savings per family. Just in last year's graduation class, families saved over \$3.2 million in total college savings. Year in and year out about 40% will graduate high school with a two year degree and between 70-75% will have almost a year of college credits completed, which far exceeds any other school. He said this not only benefits our families, but it benefits our economy too. There were \$1,000,000 in direct contributions to ECSU and COA since 2015 just from NEAAAT for things like tuition and books, but it also means that it attracts the state dollars that accompany those full time equivalents. When their students enroll, not only are they making direct payments to our university and community college, but they are wreaking the awards of those enrollments to attract additional state dollars in this region.

Dr. Harris stated that their waiting list has been growing every year. For every five students so far that have applied to NEAAAT, one of those students will gain admission through their lottery system. He said admission is balanced and they do everything they can to make sure that every family knows about their school. They request directory information and direct mail every family. They have signs all over and you can't miss their white buses all over the region. They try to make sure that families know that they exist and they create opportunities for families to engage with them out in the community to make sure that no matter their circumstances NEAAAT is a real option for them. Four of the five are going to remain in their traditional public school, private schools, or homeschools, but there is something that is really important for that one student who left the traditional public school to attend a homeschool or private school, and then return to public schools to come to NEAAAT. Every time a child leaves a private school or a homeschool, the state dollars that follow that child are gone. Because NEAAAT exists, they recapture from their enrollment information through homeschools and private schools over \$750,000 every year to the local economy just because they have returned to a public school. To put that into a larger scale, since they have opened they are approaching \$4,000,000 in "re-captured" state funds.

Dr. Harris stated that NEAAAT is a regional school who recruits across five counties and they typically enroll students from eight or nine counties. He explained that county funding is attached to each student. If a student is from Chowan County and they enroll at NEAAAT, the county portion of that funding comes to their school too, which means it comes to Pasquotank County. This means over \$400,000 every year in county funding from the other counties comes into Pasquotank County as a result of NEAAAT being located here. To date, the total from other county funding is about \$2.5 million.

Dr. Harris stated that NEAAAT has grown from one hallway at Elizabeth City State University to now being the largest public school in Pasquotank County. They have 757 students and 70 fulltime employees, with a median salary of \$55,000. They have a budget of approximately \$10 million.

Dr. Harris said the word is out nationally that NEAAAT continues to receive national recognition for things like school innovation and student empowerment from organizations like the Canopy Project, the Clayton Christensen Institute, the Building Hope Foundation, and the Purple Star Award for supporting military families. He said as they go all over the country and their students present the work that they do, they are sharing the message of Elizabeth City, and telling others to come to the city. There are schools from all over our country that come to Elizabeth City to see what they are doing at NEAAAT. Dr. Harris said so far this year their staff members have presented from California to Pennsylvania and beyond. That is only possible because they have a full-time grant writer and they work as hard as they can to receive extra funding to make those kinds of things happen. He said that boils down to over \$10.9 million in external investments to the local economy since they opened in 2015. Going into next year, they will surpass \$11 million in external investments through grants and other proceeds that would not have been in this local community.

Dr. Harris stated that the challenge is this, because of their existing policy environment, charter school students have been funded at about 70% of traditional public school students. He said you've got two students, both attending public schools, but one student receives 70% of the funding of the other student, and it is just not fair. NEAAAT has tied or surpassed Perquimans County Schools to be the third poorest district in Northeastern North Carolina based on school

lunch program data. All of the other school districts are able to have school buses replacement. NEAAAT does not qualify for that same amount of funding because they are a charter school. A bus itself cost about \$149,000 that they need every year that they don't receive, just because their students are public charter school students. Though they pay for tuition and books, and a liaison, to make sure that their students enroll in post-secondary courses, because they are a public charter school, they can't apply for cooperative and innovative high school funding, which is over \$300,000 a year, because they are a public charter school.

Dr. Harris said he thanks County staff, because they are excellent stewards of resources here. He said he appreciates their time and attention because he knows this is no small task in providing some of the funding data. In a giving year, if you look at what a Pasquotank County NEAAAT student receives versus the funds that benefit public education for a student that attends the traditional public school, there is quite a gap. If you do the math on this, you will note that it is over \$400,000 a year that their students do not receive as a benefit that other public schools do receive. This totals over \$2 million since they opened. He said this is the case with charter schools all over the state, but state law changed during the last session, and it now says that counties "may provide capital funds to charter schools by direct appropriation". Previously, County Commissioners were prohibited.

Dr. Harris said you now see all over our state, counties are beginning to close that gap between the traditional public school students and public charter school students. He asked that Pasquotank County Commissioners do the same and close the gap for the students that attend NEAAAT as they work towards their budget this year. He thanked the Board for their time and the support they have given their school over the years and said he is happy to answer any questions they may have.

Commissioner Davis said as he was traveling to the Board Retreat the other morning, he passed a NEAAAT bus when he was coming back from Rocky Mount at 7:30am between Midway and Edenton. He asked what time school starts. Dr. Harris stated that school starts at 8:15am. Commissioner Davis said he did not see any students on the bus. He wondered where the bus was traveling from and how it is economic to do that. He asked Dr. Harris if he is asking the other eight or nine counties to help fund the school in the same way that he is asking Pasquotank. Dr. Harris said there was a group of students presenting at a national symposium around school innovation at RTI International. There were students, as well as drones, robots, and artificial heart simulations going to the symposium. He noted that some of the travel was paid for through a grant. He said when it comes to the other counties absolutely there is a gap for each county. He said the bulk of their students come from Pasquotank County, but the gap is there for students from each county. Some counties where capital appropriations have been lower, the gap is not as wide because they don't have as much capital debt. They have a lot of counties that are about to build new schools, and they too need to expand because they are busting at the seams. They hope to be able to benefit from those counties as well.

Commissioner Davis said he believes this had to be a bus picking up a child and coming to Elizabeth City at 7:30 in the morning. He asked if there are students from Plymouth or Winsor. Dr. Harris said the stop they have that is the most westward stop would be in Chowan County. They also have a stop in Tyner and one in Edenton. Commissioner Davis asked how many students there are from Chowan. Dr. Harris said he would have to look, but they tend to have around 70, but it varies.

Commissioner Shaw asked approximately how many students ride the bus. He noted that sometimes when he sees buses there may only be eight or nine students. Dr. Harris said it varies depending on where you are on the route. He stated that roughly a third of their students travel either to or from their school by bus. They have one bus that has five stops. Sometimes the waterfront stop tends to be one of their most populated, whereas some of their outer most stops, in Currituck for example, would not have as many students at that time.

Chairman Jordan thanked Dr. Harris for providing the update and for the education that he is providing the young people of our community. He acknowledged former and current Board and Council members, as well as the ECPPS Superintendent and School Board member in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2024 Commissioner Meeting

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

Tax Releases

	Taxpayer	County	City
1.	Donnell Godfrey	324.94	
2.	Donnell Godfrey	441.44	
3.	Donnell Godfrey	441.44	
4.	SAS Industries, Inc.	256.06	

Tax Refunds

	Taxpayer	County	City
1.	Arrowhead Farms	190.58	
2.	Bertha Investments LLC	302.61	
3.	Bertha Investments LLC	302.61	
4.	Bertha Investments LLC	302.61	
5.	Bertha Investments LLC	375.10	
6.	Donnell Godfrey	324.94	
7.	Donnell Godfrey	299.03	
8.	Lesa Renee Hall	151.52	144.18
9.	Frederic Vaughn Heckler	199.64	
10.	Grace Marie Hillard-Jones	100.80	95.92
11.	Kalmar USA Inc.	213.44	203.12
12.	Christopher King	104.99	
13.	Christopher King	123.75	
14.	Norfleet, William Lloyd & Shelley Alice-Burgess Barnes	117.97	
15.	Romona Gregory Outlaw	125.55	119.47
16.	Christopher Lynn Pendergrass		103.11
17.	Jerry Nichols Regan	103.73	

Solid Waste Fee Releases

	Owner's Name	Parcel ID #	Reason for Release
1.	Donnell Godfrey	P95-26	Vacant
2.	Hazel Godfrey	P8A-36	Vacant
3.	Raymond M. Godfrey Jr.	P60-26	Vacant
4.	Raymond M. Godfrey Jr.	P33-35	Vacant
5.	Raymond M. Godfrey Jr.	P34-9	Vacant
6.	Demetrius A. Holley	12-C-1	Vacant
7.	Reubin & Avis Houston	25-G-59-60	Vacant
8.	Reubin B. & Avis Houston	29-D-38	Vacant
9.	Reubin B. & Avis D. Houston	21-F-16	Vacant
10.	Reubin B. Sr. & Avis D. Houston	23-S-1	Vacant
11.	Edmond A. Sr. & Willie Hoskins	P135-7A	Vacant
12.	Willie Elnora Hoskins	P63-50	Vacant
13.	Betsy Smithson Meads	12-E-6	Vacant
14.	Jeanette Mc Murren Heirs	26-E-10	Vacant
15.	Janice Poole & Hattie Poole	P95-21	Vacant
16.	William Alvin Norfleet	P120-179	Vacant
17.	Marvin Skiles Heirs	58-H-32	Vacant
18.	Alan Eugene Stewart	P111-2	Vacant
19.	Josephine Todd White	P145A-35	Vacant
20.	Andrew W. Jr. & Sharon Winslow	P5-14	Vacant

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following budget amendments:

Tax

Decrease	010.6900.5991.00	Contingency	3,250.00
Increase	010.4140.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	3,250.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0600.4930.00	Insurance Proceeds	65,300.00
Increase	010.4310.5353.00	Maintenance & Repair-Vehicles	65,300.00

Public Buildings

Increase	010.0600.4930.00	Insurance Proceeds	7,500.00
Increase	010.4190.5351.00	Repair & Maintenance-Buildings	7,500.00

d. Approval of EMS Training Officer Reclassification

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to reclassify the EMS Training Officer from Grade 21 to EMS Training Captain Grade 23.

e. Approval to Purchase Radio Programming Services and Capital Items for EMS

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to purchase EMS radio programming and capital items at a total cost of \$231,500 (update portable, mobile and base station 800 MHz radio equipment, retrofit one ambulance with the Striker Power Load System, add two additional LIFEPAK 15 defibrillators and two additional LUCAS 3 Automated CPR devices to back line units, and preplace end-of-life GETAC Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD equipment) using unbudgeted Medicaid Hold Harmless Funds and approval of the following Budget Amendment:

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	231,500.00
Increase	010.4370.5500.00	Capital Outlay	231,500.00

f. Approval to Purchase Sheriff's Office Vehicles

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to purchase three vehicles for the Sheriff's Office at a total cost of \$122,675, which includes tags and equipment, using \$120,000 in unbudgeted Medicaid Hold Harmless Funds and \$2,675 in Contingency Funds, and approval of the following Budget Amendment:

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	120,000.00
Decrease	010.6900.5991.00	Contingency	2,675.00
Increase	010.4310.5500.00	Capital Outlay	78,510.00
Increase	010.4315.5500.00	Capital Outlay	44,165.00

g. Approval of UNC School of Government Benchmarking Service Agreement

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to execute a one-year service agreement with UNC School of Government for Benchmarking Services at a cost of \$10,000.

h. Approval of Extension of National Guard Armory Lease and Transfer of Ownership to the City

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a 90-day lease extension for the National Guard Armory to allow time to determine the process for transferring ownership to the City of Elizabeth City.

i. Approval of Request for Occupancy Tax Funds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to send a letter of support for the Mind, Body and Spirit Expo of Elizabeth City to receive \$1,250 in County Tourism Funds.

j. Approval of Revised Application for the SL2023-24 Water/Sewer Fund

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the revised application for the SL2023-24 Water/Sewer Funds.

k. Denial of Request to Tie into County Sewer Line on Northside Road

Staff received a request to tie into the County's existing sewer line on Northside Road. The requestor will be installing 60 residential modular units. Upon staff's recommendation, the Finance Committee has recommended denial of the request due to having no residential customers on the sewer system, the increased demand on the system, and the fact that the six-inch line is undersized to meet the additional flow.

Motion was made by Sam Davis, seconded by Jonathan Meads to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO HUGHES BOULEVARD:**

County Manager Sparty Hammett said he has spoken with John Abel at the NCDOT and if the Board would like they can be available to give a presentation and answer questions about the project at our next Board meeting on March 18th.

Commissioner Davis said he would like to have NCDOT come. He is totally against it. He has been in several communities in North Carolina that have roundabouts and it is the biggest mess of anything that he has seen in a long, long time. He stated that Rocky Mount is building three new roundabouts close to 95, and those people are so fouled up they will run right over top of you. He said if somebody could make him understand that it is good for our community, he would like for that to happen because as it stands right now, he doesn't think it is good for our community. He doesn't think we should disrupt the flow of traffic that is happening right now, because it is a major business corridor and thinks it is the wrong thing to do.

Commissioner Meads said there is an area right off of 64 that has three roundabouts in a row. Commissioner Davis said that is the one he was speaking of. Commissioner Meads said it seems to him that traffic tries to avoid the area. Commissioner Davis said if they avoid the proposed area on Hughes Boulevard, they will not be able to get to the hospital.

Motion was made by Sam Davis, seconded by Jonathan Meads to request NCDOT present on the proposed changes on Hughes Boulevard at the March 18, 2024 Commissions meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS BY APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:**

Vice-Chairman Overman, Chairman of the Appointments Committee, reported that the Appointments Committee met today and would like to recommend the appointment of Gloria Frelix to the Elizabeth City Planning Commission. Since the appointment is a new appointment, it will need to lie over for two weeks to allow for additional applications.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Clifford Shaw to accept the nomination of Gloria Frelix to the Elizabeth City Planning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:**

Assistant County Manager John Shannon reported that the bid announcement for Phase I of the Newland Park went out today.

8. **REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Shaw met with the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court Paul Newby on February 6th. On February 7th, he was given a tour of the Sentara Albemarle Medical Center Radiation/Oncology Center. He said he was very impressed with the facility. On February 7th, he visited HL Trigg School and talked with students. On February 10th, he attended the Hearts for Hunger Gala put on by the Food Bank of the Albemarle, along with Commissioners Griffin and Overman. On February 12th, he attended the PW Moore Elementary School Family Dinner, along with Chairman Jordan. On February 12th, he attended the Tourism Development Authority meeting. The new Executive Director was hired. On February 15th, he toured the Public Defender's Office. On February 15th, he attended the Jail Board meeting. On February 15th, he participated in early voting at the Board of Elections. On February 22nd, he attended the Tourism Development Authority meeting. On February 22nd, he spoke with some students at Northeastern High School for the African American Community Leader Day. On February 22nd, he attended the PW Moore Elementary School Black History Program. On February 23rd, he attended the Board Retreat held at Sentara Albemarle Medical Center. On

February 24th, he attended the SOULS Ministry Feeding Program. Lastly, on February 28th, he attended the JCPC meeting.

Commissioner Davis attended the Business Expo and the Department of Social Services meeting. The Governor issued a proclamation for Social Services Workers, declaring March as Social Workers Month. He asked that the Board consider adopting a similar proclamation recognizing our local Social Workers at the Board's next meeting.

Commissioner Meads attended the Albemarle Regional Health Board Executive Committee. He noted that they received a clean audit and they are financially secure. They received a presentation by Laurie Meads with Behavioral Health. She discussed some of the funding that is available through the state for behavioral health. They are trying to recruit some representatives to help in each county and possibly have two clinicians in Pasquotank County. He also attended the Skills Inc. Board meeting. They are in the planning phases of a pretty big expansion in the Industrial Park. He said they have taken ownership of Skeeter Beater Insect Repellent. He attended the Board Retreat. He said the NCACC led a session at the retreat where commissioners were asked several questions. He stated that he went home and studied some of the questions and he thought the Board gave some really good responses on goals for the future. He would like to see this activity take place every year.

Vice-Chairman Overman attended Romeo's Ribbon Cutting where he enjoyed their pizza. He attended the YMCA Annual Volunteer Banquet in Norfolk. His wife serves on their board. He attended the Board Retreat. He said he had three unique opportunities to observe some active shooter training in a couple local churches, as well as Chief 101 Training, which is a specific training for fire chiefs, which was held at COA. He also did some training at the 911 Center for our volunteer firefighters who need better knowledge of how the 911 system works. He continues to attend Rotary on behalf of the Board and welcoming others to join him on Mondays at 1PM. He and Chairman Jordan attended the Sentara Quarterly meeting. He attended the Annual Ag Extension Crop Day and provided a welcome on behalf of the Board. Farmers attended from three counties. He and Commissioners Shaw and Griffin attended the Food Bank Gala. He attended the seafood dinner at Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department. He attended the College of the Albemarle Board of Trustees meeting. He celebrated his 27th wedding anniversary and his parents' 60th wedding anniversary this past month.

Chairman Jordan attended the Ministers Council meeting last month. In the morning, he will be attending another Ministers Council meeting, as well as visiting Sheep Harney Elementary School to read to students. He attended a luncheon at NEAAAT. He attended the Green Saves Green meeting. He attended an oyster dinner at the Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department. He attended the Parks & Recreation meeting. He attended the PW Moore Elementary School family dinner. He attended the Ryan Homes Ribbon Cutting. He stated that they are building a lot of homes in our community. He attended the Jail Board meeting. He attended the Romeo's Pizza Ribbon Cutting. He and County Manager Hammett attended a legislative breakfast held in Camden. He attended the Trillium Governing Board meeting in Raleigh. Lastly, he attended the Board Retreat.

There being nothing further business to come before the Board;

Motion was made by Sam Davis, seconded by Barry Overman to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:01.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD