

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 20, 2023**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charles H. Jordan, Chairman  
Barry Overman, Vice-Chairman  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Sean Lavin  
Jonathan Meads  
Sam Davis, III

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sparty Hammett, County Manager  
John Shannon, Assistant County Manager  
R. Michael 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. Commissioner Sean Lavin 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 Adding a County Supplement for Librarian; 2) Approval of Purchase of Furniture for Commissioners Boardroom; 3) Approval of Resolution Authorizing Staff to Execute Documents for Additional Settlements for Opioid Litigation; and 4) Approval of Contract for Economic Development Services.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to amend the agenda to add Items #1-4 to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**2. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION TO CORRINA RUFFIEUX:**

Chairman Jordan called on Corrina Ruffieux, Executive Director of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Tourism Development Authority to accept the following proclamation:

 **Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, Corrina Ruffieux has been employed as the Executive Director of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Tourism Development Authority since 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina has led a complete transformation of the TDA by creating and adopting the first-ever tourism strategic plan and driving numerous sustainable project development initiatives which enabled tourism revenue growth of 33% since starting her tenure in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina spearheaded a first-of-its kind partnership between a destination marketing organization and the United States Coast Guard, leading to the inaugural official U.S. Coast Guard Road Race; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina pioneered a county-wide wayfinding project, providing 55 wayfinding signs, a modernized downtown map highlighting over 100 local businesses, a new visitor information kiosk and revamped “Harbor of Hospitality” mural; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina transformed TDA operations through exhaustive modernization of 119 policies, procedures, and programs, culminating in meeting rigorous standards required by the Destination Marketing Accreditation Program and achieving accreditation; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina amplified the 2020 annual budget by 15% through secured COVID grants, leading to new and innovative marketing and Public Relations efforts, including the nationally recognized “Calling all Elizabeths” campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina achieved substantial year-over-year increases in unique website visits of 67% from 2019-2020 and another 50% from 2020-2021 through revitalization of overall annual destination marketing programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Corrina executed development and adoption of a Destination Inclusion Strategy; coordinated with an expert consultant to host 40+ listening sessions and secure over 1,100 diverse responses to a resident survey ensuring significant community input was included in the final strategy.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners, I want to express my sincere appreciation to Corrina for her dedication to Pasquotank County and wish her much happiness as she begins this exciting new chapter in her life.

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.

Ms. Ruffieux said this was a really hard decision to make. Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County are an incredible part of North Carolina and she is absolutely honored that she had the opportunity to be as busy as she has been and to accomplish as much as she could on behalf of the entire community. She is so excited that a lot of what she has done will be here for the next Executive Director, and will be here for this community in perpetuity. She said to leave a legacy and to make a place better than how you found it is all she can ask for. She truly thinks she worked very hard with an amazing team and an amazing board, and a lot of members of this community. A lot of people actually listened to her when she had some pretty crazy ideas and were willing to work with her, and that’s what makes a difference. She encouraged the whole community to continue to work together and to listen to their next Tourism Director, because they may have some crazy ideas too.

The Board thanked Ms. Ruffieux for all she has done during her time here for our community and noted that Maggie Valley is very lucky to have her.

**3. SENTARA ANNUAL REPORT:**

Chairman Jordan called on Sentara Albemarle Medical Center President Dr. Phil Jackson to provide Sentara’s annual report.

Dr. Jackson introduced Sentara’s Interim President Dr. Sherwin Stewart who will be taking his place when he retires. Dr. Stewart has been serving as the Vice-President of Operations at Sentara Careplex Hospital in Newport News. Dennis Matheis is the new President and CEO of Sentara Healthcare.

Dr. Jackson provided the following updates:

Occupancy dates for new hospital:

Phase 1 Tenants – Spring/Summer 2023

- Radiation Oncology
- Family Practice
- Cardiac Rehab

Phase 1A Tenants – Fall 2023

- Central Testing
- Women’s Imaging & AIC
- Digital Hub

Phase 2 Tenants – Winter 2024

- General and Vascular Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Wound Care

- Orthopedics
- Virginia Oncology Associates

Project Overview – Major Hospital Milestones

- Groundbreaking July 2022
- Structural design pkg complete Sept 2022
- Site Work began Nov 2022
- Exterior/Core & Shell design pkg complete Nov 2022
- Hospital construction start Nov 2022
- Hospital occupied Winter 2024

New Providers

- Christian Bentley, MD, Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
- Tracy Pap-Barnett, NP (OB/GYN)
- Michael Whitehurst, NP-C (Neurology)
- Crystal Brabble, NP-C (Surgery)
- Kelsey Boot, NP (Family Medicine)
- Carly McMahan, NP (Family Medicine)
- Madeline Winslow, NP (Family Internal Medicine)

National Achievements and Recognition:

US News and World Report: High Performing

- Heart Failure
- Maternity Care (Uncomplicated Pregnancy)
- Kidney Failure
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Leapfrog Hospital Safety: B

Cardiology – 2022 Gold Performance Achievement Award for NCDR Chest Pain

DNV-GL Certified Primary Stroke Center

Workplace Safety

Dr. Jackson stated that Sentara is committed to their team member’s safety and fosters a safer work environment by monitoring access to the hospital, increasing staff readiness and reducing workplace violence incidents.

- Visitor Badging System
- Handle with Care Initiative
- Safe Rooms

Investment in Staff

- Hired 163 new external applicants in 2022
- National Hospital Turnover = 25.9%, SAMC = 13.6%
- Celebrating both Nurses Weeks and Hospital Week from May 6-13
- Staff Appreciation Cart
- Celebration for Employees with 25+ Years of Service
- Diversity & Inclusion Celebration
- Executives hold quarterly Town Halls
- Pay raises

Partnering with the Community

- Sentara gave \$1.2 million in grant funding to 20 nonprofit & other organizations in their Northeastern NC community

The Board thanked Dr. Jackson for his service to our committee, especially during the pandemic. Dr. Jackson said he is thankful for the partnership they have with Pasquotank County and the community and they have put forth an effort to show that they are committed. He stated that it has been a very exciting and rewarding three years for him. He is happy to leave at a time that there is a bright future ahead for northeast North Carolina, with a brand new hospital, medical office building, and other things that are coming.

Dr. Stewart said he looks forward to meeting and working with each member of the Board.

**4. COMMENTS BY ANTHONY SAWYER:**

Chairman Jordan called on Anthony Sawyer of 2715 W. Main Street Ext. to address the Board.

Mr. Sawyer spoke regarding his complaints with school administration. He was dismissed two years ago as a coach from the NHS football team after 17 years. He said his dismissal was based on his criminal records from 27 years ago. His record has been expunged since this happened, and he was told by the school board's attorney that once those offences were expunged he could reapply and would be put back as a coach, but he has been given the runaround since that time. He said he can't even get a hearing. He said a lawsuit will be filed the week of Easter vacation if he does not receive a hearing.

##### **5. PUBLIC HEARING ON RENAMING OF SANDY ROAD:**

Chairman Jordan declared the meeting to be a public hearing on renaming of Sandy Road to General Proctor Road. Chairman Jordan asked if anyone would care to comment on the renaming.

Chairman Jordan called on Nancy Jones of 913 Sandy Road to address the Board. Ms. Jones spoke in opposition of renaming Sandy Road. She moved to Sandy Road in July of 2022. Her husband is a cancer patient and he relies very heavily on the mail, Fed Ex, UPS, and Amazon for his cancer medications, durable medical equipment, and other supplies to be delivered to their house in a timely manner to sustain his life. It took months to straighten out delivery problems, and she couldn't fathom another address change. An address change would be more than an inconvenience, it could possibly cause delay in his treatment. She understands why the Board would want to name a road after General Proctor, but she would prefer it not be Sandy Road.

Chairman Jordan called on Ryan Guard of 915 Sandy Road to address the Board. Mr. Guard said he has lived on Sandy Road for approximately two years. He opposes the name change. They have consistently had problems with their mail, and they are finally starting to get all that stuff figured out. A name change would require him to change his deeds, driver's license, health insurance, car registration, and many other things at a cost. He is all for honoring someone. He said it sounds like General Proctor has had a great career, but he doesn't feel like this is the proper way of going about honoring him. Sandy Road is probably the least traveled road in the county. It seems odd to him to honor somebody with a dirt road name. He thinks it would be better suited to rename Millpond Road since that is where he lived.

Chairman Jordan called on Carlton Armstrong of 1451 Millpond Road to address the Board. Mr. Armstrong thanked the Board for hearing his request to rename Sandy Road. He grew up with General Proctor on Millpond Road. At the time, Sandy Road did not exist. Sandy Road was carved out from Mr. Proctor's farm and the Griffin Farm next to it. He said as a native of Newland when he built his house on Millpond Road 50 years ago he had one address and several years later the County came along and changed everybody's addresses. So, he understands. Mr. Armstrong said the reason they want to honor Mr. Proctor is because he has been a great man. General Proctor went from Millpond Road all the way up to being the Quarter Master General of the whole United States Army. 122,000 people served under him. He said he has a petition signed by 80 residents in Newland who support the renaming, as well as a letter from Colonel Marvin Thornton, Jr. who was mentored by General Proctor. The purpose of the renaming is to let the younger generation know that they can be somebody other than a bum or a drug dealer; and be from Millpond Road and be somebody. He said General Proctor has given back and gives young people encouragement.

Clerk to the Board Lynn Scott stated that she received an email, from Rolinda and Charles Baily Pond the 4<sup>th</sup> who live at 909 Sandy Road, in opposition of changing the name of Sandy Road.

Chairman Jordan closed the public hearing, and asked the Board if they have comments.

Commissioner Lavin said he spoke with Mr. Armstrong several weeks ago at the Newland meeting. He said he was not sure what the rules are for changing a road name other than it having to have state approval, but he would support it if the residents would support it. That's not what he has heard from the folks living on Sandy Road. He is burdened because the Board wants to do something for General Proctor, but he does not know that this is going to get done.

Commissioner Griffin said he would like NC DOT to weigh in on this. Chairman Jordan said it is his understanding that the Board needs to vote on the request prior to DOT's consideration. Assistant County Manager John Shannon explained that there is an application process and a set of rules that the DOT has, but before those even kick in it has to be passed by the Board of Commissioners. If the Board chooses to pass it, then he would coordinate with Mr. Armstrong

and whoever else wanted to be involved to get the paperwork and application ready. If the Board does not approve the request, then it stops here. He has spoken with DOT. They have sent him the steps, which he has forwarded to the County Attorney for his review. He said even if the Board is in favor, if DOT does not want to change it, it will not happen.

Vice-Chairman Overman said the process can be complicated if even one person lives on the road. He is extremely impressed that General Proctor was from our county. With that being said, he is willing to support anything that the community supports. The concern he has is will it meet the DOT guidelines even if the Board approves. Often times, distinguished people get a bridge or section of highway named after them and that would be very much in line with something of this caliber. He explained that the County used to be a route system, but that was before 911. When 911 was established in Pasquotank County in 1991, all the route numbers had to be changed to street numbers. He said he wouldn't want someone who didn't live on his road tell him what he needs to change his road too.

Commissioner Davis said he understands the concerns. He grew up on Westover Street, which is now Hughes Boulevard. They went through the same changes, but time does change things and sometimes you have to change with the times. He doesn't know how many people live on Sandy Road. Mr. Armstrong answered four, one of which is unoccupied. Commissioner Davis said he thinks if the government changes the name of your road, you don't have to pay. He thinks we should honor General Proctor and he thinks this is a fitting way to do that. He also likes the idea of naming a section of road after him.

Commissioner Meads said he has had numerous phone calls from residents on Sandy Road and throughout the Newland area that do not want the road name changed. He said if the citizens were for it, maybe the Board would be in favor of it, but as it stands right now, he is against it.

Commissioner Griffin asked if Sandy Road runs into Perquimans County. Mr. Shannon said it does, but that should not be an issue. Vice-Chairman Overman asked how many businesses are located on Sandy Road. County Manager Hammett stated that Smithfield Grain is the major business, but there are a couple others.

Commissioner Davis said he has always complained about Water Street, changing into Southern Avenue, then changing into River Road, then Pitt's Chapel Road. He said suppose you have a heart attack on one of those roads and you have to call EMS.

Motion was made by Sam Davis, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to adopt a resolution requesting NCDOT rename Sandy Road to General Proctor Road. The motion failed 3 to 3, with Commissioners Meads, Overman, and Lavin voting in opposition.

Mr. Shannon explained that a unanimous vote by the Board of Commissioners is highly desirable for DOT to consider, but it doesn't have to be. He said he would be glad to talk with Mr. Armstrong regarding other options available.

Commissioner Overman explained that the "no votes" are not against renaming something. They just don't believe this will pass based on DOT's rules. Mr. Shannon agreed that there is a lot that goes into it. Chairman Jordan said the County will continue to try to find a way to honor General Proctor.

#### **6. APPROVAL OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**

Vice-Chairman Overman, Chairman of the Appointments Committee stated that at the last meeting the Board accepted the nomination of Brenda Layden to the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Human Relations Commission. A copy of her application has been provided to Board members, and the Board can give final approval to the appointment or can nominate other individuals to fill the vacancy.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to appoint Brenda Layden to the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Human Relations Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **7. PASQUOTANK COUNTY LAND USE PLAN:**

Planning Director Shelley Cox said last month our consultant Stewart presented the Draft

Pasquotank County Land Use Plan to the Board. She hopes that the Board has had plenty of time to look through it and doesn't have any concerns at this point.

Ms. Cox said it is a 25 year plan. It is a community vision for how we want to see the County grow and develop. It has been about a one year process. It was kicked off with interviews last March, with Department Heads, the Board of Commissioner, the Planning Board, and various community members. They conducted a community survey trying to get input from the community on how they want to see the County grow. Once they had all this information, they drafted the Land Use Plan. The plan includes the Future Land Use Map, which was presented to the Board back in September, showing where we want to see residential growth, verses commercial growth, verses industrial growth, verses property that should remain agricultural. The main premise behind the plan is trying to insure that our community remains resilient. As we see the effects from sea level rise and climate change occurring, increasing the flood zone area within the County and the vulnerability of the community, they tried to guide growth away from those areas that are most vulnerable and prone to flood.

Since the last meeting, the only comments that she received were from the Airport Director and Economic Development Director who wanted to make sure that we protected the land use around the airport to insure that they are not encroached upon. She said that has been an additional plan recommendation that is included. Commissioner Griffin asked if Mr. Hinton asked for a specific sphere. Ms. Cox said he did not ask for a specific area, so they have left it broad, but anytime there is a rezoning or a land use decision to be made near the airport, the wording will be brought to the Board when considering a request.

Ms. Cox said what she is requesting tonight is that the Board move the plan forward to the Coastal Resources Commission for their certification. Once the CRC reviews it and certifies the plan, the plan will come back to the Board for an official public hearing and official adoption. It will be CAMA certified, which is one of the requirements.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to refer the Draft Land Use Plan to the Coastal Resources Commission for their review and certification. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2023 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.	Stuart E. Cohen	340.54	223.03
2.	Stuart E. Cohen	292.18	177.01

**Tax Refunds**

	Taxpayer	County	City
1.	Charles Robert Ambrose	135.26	
2.	ECSU Housing Foundation LLC	1,899.68	1,807.76
3.	Dawn Cooper Elliott	114.43	108.90
4.	Daniel Lee Ford	106.58	
5.	Richard A. & Mary E. Green	131.67	
6.	Richard A. & Mary E. Green	131.67	
7.	Richard A. & Mary E. Green	131.67	
8.	Richard A. & Mary E. Green	131.67	
9.	Richard A. & Mary E. Green	181.66	
10.	Lacey Chott Jones & James William Jones Jr.	141.65	
11.	Mid-Atlantic Christian University	129.45	138.20
12.	Kenneth Marshall Willingham	528.54	

Solid Waste Fee Releases

	Owner's Name	Parcel ID #	Reason for Release
1.	Katie N. Butts	P6-72	Vacant
2.	Harrell Griffin Heirs	P48-4	Vacant
3.	Mary Foskey	29-C-17	Vacant
4.	Mary Foskey	45-E-2	Vacant
5.	Mary Foskey	61-A-13 thru 16	Vacant
6.	Pam T. Griffin	P122A-176	Vacant
7.	Reubin B. Sr. & Avis D. Houston	23-S-1	Vacant
8.	Reubin B. Sr. & Avis D. Houston	15-A-11G	Vacant
9.	Reubin B. Sr. & Avis D. Houston	21-F-16	Vacant
10.	Reubin B. & Avis Houston	25-G-59-60	Vacant
11.	Reubin B. & Avis Houston	29-D-38	Vacant
12.	Tony Lewis	23-R-27	Vacant
13.	Tony Lewis	12-G-16A	Vacant
14.	Tony Lewis	50-L-8	Vacant
15.	Tony C. Lewis	23-R-20,21	Vacant
16.	Terry Brent & Teleda Meads	P6-21A	Vacant

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

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

Emergency Management

Increase	010.0220.4532.00	Other Grants	300.00
Increase	010.4330.5600.00	Grant Funds	300.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	26,739.00
Increase	010.4310.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	26,739.00

Landfill

Increase	065.0600.4930.00	Insurance Proceeds	20,545.00
Increase	065.7420.5353.00	Maintenance-Vehicles	20,545.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0240.4380.39	Bureau of Justice	51,283.00
Increase	010.4310.5122.00	Salaries & Wages-OT	39,946.00
Increase	010.4310.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	11,337.00

Central Communications

Decrease	010.6900.5991.00	Contingency	17,720.00
Increase	010.4325.5500.00	Capital Outlay	17,720.00

E911

Increase	022.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	190,000.00
Increase	022.4328.5500.00	Capital Outlay	190,000.00

d. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with College of the Albemarle for Welding and Fabrication Repairs

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a memorandum of understanding with College of the Albemarle for welding, repair, and fabrication services of County owned dumpsters by COA's welding classes at no cost to the County.

e. Approval to Hang Portrait of Retired Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole in Courthouse

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of a request to hang a portrait of retired Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole in the courthouse.

f. Approval of Adding a County Supplement for Librarian

At the 2023 Board of Commissioners Retreat, East Albemarle Regional Library (EARL) System Director Johnathan Wark outlined concerns with attracting qualified Librarians due to salary constraints. The state funding provided to EARL has actually decreased from \$469,907 in Fiscal

Year 1998-99 to \$396,658, and EARL reduced staffing from seven employees to four (three County Librarians and Johnathan Wark's position, which is EARL Director/Dare County Librarian) to absorb the loss of funding and inflation. Adding a Pasquotank County salary supplement would increase the attractiveness of the job and aid in hiring a qualified, experienced Librarian who will be needed to move our Library forward. The Finance Committee has recommended approval to add a County salary supplement of up to \$10,000 to help attract a Librarian with exceptional experience.

*g. Approval of Purchase of Furniture for Commissioners Boardroom*

The Commissioners Boardroom project budget did not include funding for furniture for the Boardroom. The budget did include funding for the architect to obtain quotes for the furniture. The total cost for the recommended furniture package is \$70,631.92. The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the purchase of furniture for the Commissioners Boardroom using proceeds from the sale of assets available in Fund Balance.

*h. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Staff to Execute Documents for Additional Settlements for Opioid Litigation*

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following resolution which authorizes the County Manager or County Attorney to execute all documents necessary to enter into opioid settlement agreements with Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Allergan, and Teva, to execute the SAAF, and to provide such documents to Rubris, the Implementation Administrator:

**RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF PASQUOTANK  
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF OPIOID SETTLEMENTS AND APPROVING THE  
SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS BETWEEN THE STATE  
OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON PROCEEDS RELATING  
TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION**

**WHEREAS**, the opioid overdose epidemic had taken the lives of more than 32,000 North Carolinians (2000-2021);

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the opioid overdose crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the total economic burden of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, pharmaceutical distribution companies, and chain drug stores to hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and

**WHEREAS**, settlements have been reached in litigation against Walmart, Inc., Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Allergan Finance, LLC, Allergan Limited, CVS Health Corporation, CVS Pharmacy, Inc., and Walgreen Co., as well as their subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, and directors named in these Settlements; and

**WHEREAS**, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds (SAAF) to provide for the equitable distribution of the proceeds of these settlements; and

**WHEREAS**, by joining the settlements and approving the SAAF, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Pasquotank County and its residents, to sign onto the settlements and SAAF and demonstrate



solidarity in response to the opioid overdose crisis, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state and Pasquotank County to help abate the harm; and

**WHEREAS**, the SAAF directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid overdose epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Pasquotank County hereby authorizes the County Manager or County Attorney to execute all documents necessary to enter into opioid settlement agreements with Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Allergan, and Teva, to execute the SAAF, and to provide such documents to Rubris, the Implementation Administrator.

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.

**Comment [NS1]:** REMINDER: All settlement documents, SAAF, and this resolution must be approved, signed, and submitted by **no later than April 18, 2023**.

*i. Approval of Contract for Economic Development Services*

On February 15, 2023, the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Economic Development Commission (EDC) unanimously voted to move forward to draft a contract for economic development services between the EDC and the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Airport. Airport Director/Interim Economic Development Director Scott Hinton would serve as the Economic Development Director per the terms of the agreement. The EDC will pay the Airport \$45,000 per year for Mr. Hinton's services, as well as pay Mr. Hinton's portion of his local government retirement, FICA employer contribution and workman's compensation policy premium consummate with the \$45,000 payment (as amended) for services. The costs would be split 50% - 50% with the City of Elizabeth City per the terms of the joint resolution that established the EDC. The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the agreement for economic development services.

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Sam Davis to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

**9. APPROVAL OF ADDING JUNETEENTH AS AN ADDITIONAL COUNTY HOLIDAY:**

County Manager Hammett stated that at the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting the Finance Committee approved adding Juneteenth as an additional County holiday by a 5 to 1 vote. Typically staff would have move this item forward to New Business that night, however, we were directed to streamline that March 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting due to the East Carolina event starting at 6:30pm.

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Sam Davis to add the addition of Juneteenth to the County's holiday schedule, and to amend the County's meeting schedule, which will cancel the June 19, 2023 meeting and add a meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023. The motion carried 5 to 1, with Commissioner Meads voting in opposition.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:**

Vice-Chairman Overman, Chairman of the Appointments Committee, stated that the Appointments Committee met today and has made the following recommendations:

Animal Control Board – Appoint Tina Cradock as the SPCA Representative. This appointment will also need to be approved by the City, and does not need to lie over since it is recommended by the SPCA.

Tourism Development Authority – Appoint Donnie Markham as the hotel/motel representative. This appointment will need to lie over for two weeks.

Voluntary Agricultural District Committee – Appoint slat presented by Co-Operative Extension.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to approve the recommendations from the Appointments Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Meads attended the Solid Waste/Landfill Committee meeting. Additionally, he attended a meeting with Senator Norm Sanderson. He assured him that he understands the needs

of our County and he is working on some things. He is very much aware of the projects we have going on. He attended the Building and Grounds Committee meeting today. They took a tour of the courthouse lobby and discussed items that need to be addressed. The Code Council met and there are some pretty radical changes to the energy code, which will probably change a lot of the affordability in our homes. One of the targets is eliminating gas ranges. They are also looking at mandatory electric vehicle hook ups on all new homes.

Commissioner Lavin said T-Com has been really busy. He attended the Elizabeth City Downtown meeting. He participated in a Spaghetti dinner social to raise some funds for Camp Cale. He attended a GOP Convention, which was well attended.

Commissioner Griffin said the Albemarle Commission Board met last week. They are working on a new strategic plan. They are concerned about how the broadband initiative is being implemented, as well as what will happen when Covid funds run out in three years. Workforce Development received a two year grant. Governor Cooper was at the Alligator River Bridge celebrating the \$110 million that was received from the federal government. The \$110 million will need to be matched by another \$200 million from the state just to move the project forward. He continues to ask why the I-87 project still continues to lag behind. He thinks the community has to have a little bit of an understanding about offshore wind projects that are being brought forward. The Governor continues to say that offshore wind is going to be our savior, however, we are starting to see that there is a lot of impact that nobody has really talked about. The Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management has issued leases and licenses to foreign countries that own these sites. There are millions of acres that have been sold and the jobs that they are talking about and the infrastructure itself will be built overseas. This is significant because there is no demand for wind power. He said it was great to see so many people downtown this weekend. He estimated there were over 2,000 people downtown.

Commissioner Overman attended the White Out for Hunger Event at Seven Sounds last weekend. He also attended the Tourism Development Authority Finance meeting. He had the opportunity to speak to the Northeastern High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes. It's interesting to see how many of our young students come out early in the morning to attend these meetings.

Chairman Jordan said he and Mr. Hammett attended a Legislative Breakfast with Senator Sanders and Representative Ward. Most of the conversation was regarding the City's infrastructure. He gave remarks on behalf of the County at the ECSU Founder's Day event. ECSU held their Annual Gala, which is one of their main fundraising events during the year. He attended the Trillium meeting. They are still pushing the date back for Medicaid Expansion. He attended the Solid Waste/Landfill Committee meeting. He and Mr. Hammett had a meeting with US Representative Don Davis' staff. He informed him of some of the things that are going on in Pasquotank County and what some of our needs are. He attended the Jail Board meeting. He also attended the United Way Keel Club event.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK TO THE BOARD