

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 18, 2016**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, April 18, 2016 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph S. Winslow, Jr., Chairman
Cecil Perry, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Dixon
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Frankie Meads
Bettie J. Parker

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rodney Bunch, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Joe Winslow. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Commissioner William Sterritt led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Winslow asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Vice-Chairman Cecil Perry requested that the agenda be amended to add the following recommendation from today's Finance Committee meeting to the consent agenda: 1) Approval of budget amendment.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to add item #1 above to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Griffin requested that a Closed Session be added at the end of the meeting to Protect the Attorney Client Privilege.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Cecil Perry to add a Closed Session to Project the Attorney Client Privilege at the end of the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

2. COMMENTS FROM KEITH RIVERS:

Chairman Winslow called on Mr. Keith Rivers to address the Board. Mr. Rivers, President of the Pasquotank County Branch of the NAACP said he is coming before the Board to ask them to stand with the NAACP and other organizations across the state of North Carolina in support of Medicaid Expansion in the form of a resolution to our legislators and our Governor.

Mr. Rivers explained that thirty one states and the District of Columbia are currently receiving 100 percent federal funding to extend health care coverage (also referred to as Medicaid Expansion) to individuals that have incomes that are too high to qualify for Medicaid, but too low to receive financial assistance to purchase coverage through the Marketplace. He said with the passage of Medicaid Reform, North Carolina has a tremendous opportunity to develop a state-specific plan to close the gap.

Mr. Rivers said regardless of age, race, gender, and income level most residents of the Tar Heel state want to expand health coverage to 500,000 low-income people in the state. He stated that it is important to remember that more than 300,000 of these North Carolinians have no other insurance options available to them.

Mr. Rivers explained that in addition to individual voters, several local governments are in favor of extending health coverage. These include: City of Durham, City of Greensboro, City of Reidsville, City of Winston-Salem, Mecklenburg County, Nash County, Orange County, Yancey County and the Towns of Burnsville, Chapel Hill, Eden, and Madison.

Mr. Rivers said in Pasquotank County, not expanding Medicaid by 2016 would lead to: 44 fewer jobs created in 2016, 85 fewer jobs created in 2020, 1,197 people who would not get Medicaid coverage in 2016, \$26.2 million less growth to the county's economy from 2016 to 2020, \$39.2 million less in county business activity from 2016 to 2020, and \$204.5 thousand less collected in county tax revenues from 2016 to 2020.

In closing, he said we must all come together and let Raleigh know that we are standing together.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON LEASE OF PROPERTY AT EDGEWOOD:

County Attorney Mike Cox explained that the public hearing will be on the proposed lease of 6,000 sq. ft. of county owned property at 1407 Parkview Drive to MSA Home Health and Hospice of NC, Inc. The lease will be for a three year term. There will be no annual rent the first year of the lease and the annual rent for years two and three will be \$18,000.

County Manager Bunch explained that MSA will be providing adult day care services, which were previously provided by our Health Department.

Chairman Winslow declared the meeting to be a public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments regarding the lease of the property. He asked if anyone would care to address the Board. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by William Sterritt to adopt the following resolution approving the lease with MSA Home Health and Hospice of NC, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING LEASE WITH
MSA HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE OF NC, INC. 2016-10**

WHEREAS, Pasquotank County owns property located at 1407 Parkview Drive (being approximately 6,000 square feet); and

WHEREAS, MSA Home Health and Hospice of NC, Inc. wishes to lease said County owned property; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined the property will not be needed during the term of the lease; and

WHEREAS, The County and MSA Home Health and Hospice of NC, Inc. have agreed to enter into a lease for a term of three (3) years, beginning April 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, there shall be no annual rent for year one but an annual rent of \$18,000 for years two and three; and

WHEREAS, NCGS 160A-272 authorizes the County to enter into leases up to ten (10) years upon resolution of the county commissioners adopted at a regular meeting after thirty (30) days' notice; and

WHEREAS, the required notice has been published and the Board of Commissioners is convened at a regular meeting;

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN PASQUOTANK COUNTY RESOLVES THAT:

The Board of Commissioners hereby approves the lease of County property described above to MSA Home Health and Hospice of NC, Inc. for three (3) years on terms described hereinabove and directs the chairman to execute any instruments necessary to secure the lease.

ADOPTED this 18th day of April 2016.

Commissioner Meads noted that he opposes not charging rent for the first year. Commissioner Perry said he is very glad that someone stepped forward and took over this program because it is very much needed for our senior citizens.

4. PRESENTATION ON FIREHOUSE SUBS GRANTS:

Mr. Jerry Newell, EMS Director stated that he would like to showoff what the EMS Department has been doing and the equipment they have gained over the past year. He noted within this fiscal year Pasquotank/Camden EMS has been seeking out the opportunity to help improve the quality of EMS, not only for our patients, but for their technicians as well. He said they have received approximately \$135,000 in monies to purchase much needed equipment.

In July 2015, EMS was granted approximately \$100,000 from FEMA. He said the following items were purchased: \$2,900 for a McGrath Airway Device, \$15,900 for a LUCAS III Cardiac Compression Device, \$74,490 for Personal Protective Equipment (Extrication Style), and \$15,825 for a HAL Training Manikin. In December 2015, with the help of the Pasquotank County Rescue Squad, the EMS System received a matching grant of over \$48,000 from the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSMF) for the following gear: (14) Motorola Minitor VI pagers, (2) 800 MHz Portable Radios, (2) Stryker PowerPro Cots, and (2) Stryker StairPro. In January of 2016, EMS received nearly \$10,000 in grant monies from Firehouse Subs for the following gear: (2) Rescue Skeds, (6) Helmets, protective eyewear sets and tactical flashlights, (7) Medical kits, and (20) Plate carriers and ballistic plats. Mr. Newell showed the Board a clip of the recent Firehouse Subs grant dedication ceremony. He said the Newland and Crawford VFDs also received grants from Firehouse at the ceremony.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of April 4 and April 12, 2016 Commissioner Meetings

b. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Surplus and Sell of Items on GovDeals

Staff has requested the following resolution be adopted declaring a 2008 Mack Truck – VIN# 1M1AW07Y48N001519 as surplus so it can be sold on GovDeals.com. The Solid Waste Department vehicle is out of warranty and has over 500,000 miles.

RESOLUTION # 2016-09

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PASQUOTANK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY OF THE COUNTY TO BE SURPLUS
AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners has determined that the County owns certain personal property that is no longer needed or usable by the County; and

WHEREAS, the property is described below:

Make	Model	Year	V.I.N. / Description
Mack	Truck	2008	1M1AW07Y48N001519

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners that the County Manager and County Clerk are hereby authorized to list the above described surplus for auction.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that property described in this resolution is surplus as of April 18, 2016.

c. Approval of Budget Amendment

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

ROD

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	39,200.00
Increase	010.4180.5800.00	Automation & Preservation	39,200.00

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Cecil Perry to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried.

6. REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER:

County Manager Rodney Bunch reported that the playground equipment at FunJunkion has been removed. The equipment that was not salvageable was sold at a local salvage yard and the equipment that was salvageable will be sold on GovDeals.com. He added that five vehicles were declared surplus and sold on GovDeals.com totaling \$3,269.87.

Mr. Bunch stated that Fire Coordinator Robert Boyce is in the process of completing several grant applications. Nixonton VFD received a Firehouse grant in the amount of \$17,041 for LUCAS (an automated compression device to assist with CPR), Nixonton VFD received a Walmart Community Grant in the amount of \$2,500 to purchase smoke detectors, and Weeksville VFD received a Firehouse Grant in the amount of 14,945 for (3) dual band portable radios that will meet our current and future communication needs.

Mr. Bunch reported that Board of Elections Director Kelli Price received her NC Elections certification after passing the NC State Board of Elections Certification Exam in June 2015. She was recognized for receiving the certification at the NC State Board of Elections conference in August 2015. He said Ms. Price reported to him that in the March Primary, 6,946 ballots were cast, which is a 25.43% turnout. 2,564 voted one-stop early voting, 74 voted absentee by-mail, 176 provisional votes were approved out of 242 cast, and 4,132 individuals voted on election day.

Mr. Bunch said Sheriff Cartwright, Ronnie Barefoot, and himself participated in a conference call with Mike Milas, Mission Critical Partners to review the Preliminary VIPER System Coverage Testing and Transitioning Report. He said the report is being finalized for presentation to the local governments on April 21st.

NCACC County Assembly Day is May 18th at the Quorum Center in Raleigh.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Sterritt said he attended the Community Relations Committee meeting last week. He presented a packet to them regarding the proposed Leadership Program and the committee was very receptive of handling the program.

Commissioner Dixon reported that he received an e-mail from the Highway 17 Association pertaining to the policy for naming I-44.

Commissioner Parker attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Elizabeth City Public Safety Administration Building. She said she enjoyed the tour of the newly renovated facility. She also attended the Pasquotank County Library Board of Trustees meeting on April 12th. She was invited to give greetings on behalf of the Board and the people of Pasquotank County this past Saturday at the Roanoke Ministerial Alliance Youth Connection Program and on this coming Sunday, she has been invited by the North Carolina Master Barber Association Scholarship Fundraiser to give greetings.

Commissioner Perry reported that he will be attending the Solid Waste Landfill Committee meeting this Wednesday. He invited the Board to attend. He said it is his hope that whoever chooses the individuals that will participate in the Leadership Program will choose a diverse group.

Chairman Winslow said his time over the past few weeks has been spent on the water dispute and income taxes. He reported that he will be meeting with the COA Board tomorrow evening.

The next budget work session was scheduled for Monday, April 25th at 10:00 AM.

8. CLOSED SESSION TO PRESERVE THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, TO DISCUSS PASQUOTANK COUNTY V. CITY OF ELIZABETH CITY:

Chairman Winslow asked for a motion that the Board enter Closed Session to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to discuss Pasquotank County v. City of Elizabeth City.

Motion was made by Frankie Meads, seconded by Cecil Perry that the Board enter Closed Session per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to discuss Pasquotank County v. City of Elizabeth City. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Cecil Perry, seconded by Frankie Meads that the Board return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bunch stated that he went to Mr. Olson's office this morning. After talking with him, he told Mr. Olson he understood the City's argument regarding the \$71,000 in tap fees. He explained that the County's transmission line is already tapped, valves have been installed and water has been flowing since 2012. He informed Mr. Olson that the County's main concern now is not being able to meter the water we are selling to the City. Mr. Olson said the City is currently implementing a new meter reading system and he would give the County access to it. Mr. Bunch informed him that the County is not interested in using City individual meter readings as previously done.

Mr. Bunch stated that he and Mr. Olson also discussed the possibility of installing two master meters, which will meter the water flowing into and out of the Halstead Boulevard Corridor. He said the original project called for a large meter at the plant to read the amount of water that leaves the plant going into the Halstead Boulevard direction. It also called for a meter at Thunder Road. He said those two meters could have been used to determine water used between the plant and Thunder Road. He said Mr. Olson acknowledged that the meter was never installed at Thunder Road. The prior agreement states that the meter is to be paid for 50/50. He said he told Mr. Olson he would ask his Board if they would be willing to pay half of the second meter. Mr. Bunch suggested to Mr. Olson that the second meter be installed where the line joins Halstead Boulevard at Walmart, in case the County has an industry or business that wants service between the plant and Walmart. Mr. Bunch said it was his understanding that this would be presented to the City Council this afternoon, but the letter that came back is completely different than anything they had spoken about early in the day.

Mr. Bunch commended the Board for working as hard as they have to try to create a solution that is best for all people in Pasquotank County to move this forward.

Commissioner Griffin said he feels the County should receive ½ the tap fees for any new customers that taps into the line. Mr. Bunch said we must consider the agreements that are still in place.

Mr. Bunch said at the present time there is no agreement to sell bulk water and the County's water continues to go through the line. He feels we should have ordered the City to cut the valves off because they are taking water that they do not have an agreement to buy and we do not have an agreement to sell water to them.

Commissioner Meads noted that the County tried on several occasions to meet with the City and work with them before things got this far out of hand and they would not agree to meet. He said if they want to be a commercial customer we need to treat them like we do any other commercial customer and require them to pay the County for additional taps.

Commissioner Perry said anyone reasonable would have met with us in the past to try to solve this problem. He stated that we need to make a decision now. He said we never should have had this problem in the first place.

Commissioner Parker said she does not agree with turning the water off whatsoever because the losers will be the people in our community. She stated she does however have a problem with the County not receiving half of future taps in that area. Mr. Bunch responded if we are going to allow the City to be a commercial customer and they are going to pay for all water that is sold along the Halstead Boulevard then why collect on their taps. He said if we have the meters installed and are able to read them ourselves and know the amount of water sold and we sell it to them at a commercial rate then why should we care whether they add taps and buy more water from us.

Motion was made by Commissioner Meads to adjourn the meeting. The motion died for the lack of a second.

After brief discussion;

Motion was made by Bettie Parker, seconded by Jeff Dixon to instruct staff to revise the Commercial Water Contract to state the City and County will split the cost to engineer and install two meters that can be utilized for metering water usage in the Halstead Boulevard Corridor 50/50 and remove the \$21,000 in tap fees. The motion carried 5 to 2, with commissioners Meads and Griffin voting against the motion.

Staff was instructed to deliver the revised contract to the City tomorrow morning and request an answer by 10:00 AM on Wednesday.

Chairman Winslow asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being no further business;

Motion was made by Bettie Parker, seconded by Jeff Dixon to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD