

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 3, 2013**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, June 3, 2013 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Dixon, Chairman
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Cecil Perry
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Gary G. White
Frankie Meads

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rodney Bunch, Interim County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Officer
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

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

1. ALBEMARLE HEALTH UPDATE BY WICK BAKER, CEO OF ALBEMARLE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY:

Chairman Dixon called on Mr. Wick Baker, CEO of Albemarle Hospital Authority, and also introduced staff from Albemarle Health and from Vidant Health. Mr. Baker gave an update on Albemarle Health's accomplishments and achievements. He covered four areas including patient safety and quality achievements, patient experience, community benefit, and financial performance. He stated that Albemarle Health wants 100% of its patients to get 100% of what they need all the time and their goal is zero preventable harmful events, such as pneumonia, infections or falls during their hospital stay. He reported that the emergency room has been nationally recognized for patient experiences. He noted that satisfaction with the emergency room was at 6% in 2009 and is now at 82%. Mr. Baker outlined the benefits provided by Albemarle Health to the community including governmental, access to care, economic impact, and Foundation support. He explained that Albemarle Hospital has had a negative operating margin since 2007 which can in part be attributed to the acquisition of physician practices. He said the hospital is currently out of compliance with its bond covenants, but is now on track to meet those covenants.

2. NCACC VIDEO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The Board viewed a video legislative update provided by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Chairman Dixon explained that counties are more impacted by the state budget than cities are and Pasquotank County sometimes cannot pass its budget until it finds out the impacts from the state's budget. He said one of the things highlighted in this presentation is the elimination of the statutory guarantee of 40% of lottery proceeds for school capital funding. He pointed out that the lottery was approved by a referendum of the voters and 100% of it was supposed to go for public education. He stated that counties currently receive only 40% of those funds and the remaining 60% has been taken to balance the state budget. He said it is currently being proposed that the last 40% be taken away from counties. He added that the county uses the lottery proceeds to pay its school debt service.

3. COMMENTS FROM THOMAS CHAPPELL:

Chairman Dixon recognized Mr. Thomas Chappell of 111 Farm Drive. Mr. Chappell explained that he recently had one of the worst experiences of his life at Albemarle Hospital. He said he took his wife to the hospital on April 20 with a kidney stone and two days later she had double pneumonia and was placed on the third floor. He stated that the nurse on duty was on the floor by herself with seven rooms to deal with. He said his wife was in trouble and he called her doctors to try to reverse the situation. He said after three days she was moved to medical ICU

because she was not getting enough attention and he was about to lose her. He stated that in four days she had recovered from the pneumonia, however she still had the kidney stone which was removed three days later. Mr. Chappell stated that Albemarle Hospital has a shortage of employees and someone needs to address the problem. He said the hospitals who want to take over Albemarle Hospital are going to run it into the ground, buy it, and then take off with it and make money. He stated that the hospital had money at one time and in fact the county borrowed money from the hospital to build a school and he asked why the hospital does not have any money now. He added that something needs to happen.

4. COMMENTS FROM EARL ROUNTREE:

Chairman Dixon called on Mr. Earl Rountree to address the Board. Mr. Rountree stated that he would like to clear up a lot of the negativity surrounding the survey of hospital employees. He said there have been comments that the survey really didn't mean anything and that it was unscientific. He stated that it has been stated that the survey could be stacked, however each side had the opportunity to pick up the same number of ballots, so he feels the survey was valid.

Mr. Rountree said from a standpoint of being involved with Albemarle Hospital, he is tired of waiting for a decision to be made. He explained that his wife has terminal cancer and is prone to infections. He said she became very ill last Wednesday night and the next morning they reached her doctor who told her to come to his office. When she saw the doctor he wanted her admitted to the hospital and put her on IV antibiotics right away. Mr. Rountree stated that Albemarle Hospital said they did not have a bed for his wife so he began making arrangements to take her to Sentara Obici. He said a little while later, Albemarle called and informed him they had found a bed. Mr. Rountree said things at Albemarle Hospital are a mess and he believes a decision needs to be made right away to move the lease process forward.

5. APPROVAL OF PIGGYBACK PURCHASE OF SCALE SYSTEM:

The Board had previously given approval to the process of a piggyback purchase of a Rice Lake Scale System for the landfill by piggybacking on a bid received by Bladen County last year for the same scale system for \$32,685 plus shipping. It was required that the county provide a 10-day public notice of the Board's intent to consider a waiver of the bid procedure in order to piggyback on Bladen County's bid. The notice was published in the newspaper ten days prior to tonight's meeting and the Board can now give final approval to the piggyback purchase of the scale system.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Gary White to approve the piggyback purchase of a Rice Lake Scale System for the landfill by piggybacking on a bid received by Bladen County last year for the same scale system for \$32,685 plus shipping. The motion carried by a six to one margin with Commissioner Meads voting against the motion.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Dixon asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow requested that a budget amendment in the amount of \$30,000 decreasing juvenile services and increasing professional services for the Jail be removed from the budget amendments on the consent agenda. Finance Officer Sheri Small explained that a fairly large bill for juvenile services has just been received, and if this budget amendment were approved, another one would be required to increase juvenile services.

Motion was made by Joe Winslow, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to remove the \$30,000 budget amendment for the Jail from those budget amendments on the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of May 15 and May 20, 2013 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases

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

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Paul Andrew Riggs	129.70	108.55
2.	Joseph Carroll Parker	142.73	
3.	Bradley Donald Kopf	107.88	
4.	Brett Alan Wickett	961.00	
5.	Calvin Welch	123.37	98.50
6.	Jean Lane Smith	160.21	132.91
7.	Luke Stephen Hittner	109.55	
8.	Anthony Pierce Wolfinbarger	184.70	152.46
9.	Shawn Allen Whiteker	121.46	
10.	Jason Lee Ayers	131.81	110.24
11.	Anthony Michael Bonanno	115.94	
12.	Daniel James Todd	138.63	115.68

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

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

County Manager

Increase	010.0110.4111.12	Ad Valorem Tax-'12	3,181.00
Increase	010.4120.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	2,780.00
Increase	010.4120.5181.00	FICA	213.00
Increase	010.4120.5182.00	Retirement	188.00

Board of Elections

Increase	010.0110.4111.12	Ad Valorem Tax-'12	5,300.00
Increase	010.4170.5262.00	Ballots	5,300.00

Public Buildings

Increase	010.0550.4839.00	Miscellaneous Revenue	4,118.00
Increase	010.4190.5351.02	Maintenance - Old ECMS	4,118.00

School Resource Officers

Increase	010.0600.4950.00	School Security	37,195.00
Increase	010.4315.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	25,376.00
Increase	010.4315.5181.00	FICA	1,941.00
Increase	010.4315.5182.00	Retirement	4,188.00
Increase	010.4315.5183.00	Health Insurance	5,690.00

Jail

Increase	010.0110.4111.12	Ad Valorem Tax-'12	30,000.00
Increase	010.0300.4431.01	Sheriff's Fees	20,000.00
Increase	010.0400.4432.00	Jail Fees	10,000.00
Increase	010.4320.5190.00	Professional Services	60,000.00

Special Appropriations

Increase	010.0230.4360.05	Juvenile Justice-Pass Thru	132,974.00
Increase	010.6600.5615.10	Juvenile Justice-Pass Thru	132,974.00

d. Renewal of Lease with the Forest Service

The Finance Committee has recommended that the Board approve a three-year renewal of the lease with the Forest Service for 112 square feet of office space in the Utilities Building on Pritchard Street at the present rate of \$100 per month. The current lease expires July 31, 2013.

e. Extension of Hauling Contract with Waste Industries

The Finance Committee has recommended that the contract with Waste Industries to haul garbage from the transfer station to the Bertie County Landfill be extended for an additional three years expiring June 30, 2016. The rate will be reduced from \$22.50 per ton to \$22.00 per ton.

f. Approval of Family Subdivision Request FS 13-05 by Linda Bateman to Give a Gift Lot to a Son

The Planning staff recommends approval of Family Subdivision Request FS 13-05 by Linda Bateman. Mrs. Bateman is requesting to create a 3.76 acre gift lot for her son, William Zenas

Bateman, in accordance with Article 5, Section 303 of the Pasquotank County Subdivision Ordinance. A total of 25 feet of road frontage is provided to the parcel off of Salem Church Road. Birth certificates have been provided as documentation that the plat qualifies as a family subdivision. Staff has advised that the request meets the minimum requirements for a family subdivision and recommends approval.

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

The following tax releases have been approved by the Finance Officer:

Releases:

		County	City
1.	Michael Leon Price	27.66	
2.	Jeanne Marie Balduf	28.43	22.77
3.	Victoria Elaine Geter	15.97	11.98
4.	Lauren Nichole Tutter	22.01	22.57
5.	Peter John Vasta	56.42	47.32
6.	Isis Andrew	84.44	
7.	Martin Bruce Willardson	62.93	
8.	Bryan Raymond Meek	52.20	
9.	Alice Skinner Jackson	3.60	2.88
10.	City of Elizabeth City	10.85	8.66
11.	Stuart Hall Hampton	6.95	5.55
12.	Teri Lynn Boca	9.61	7.68
13.	Robert Maggio Hudson	11.97	
14.	Robert Maggio Hudson	2.73	
15.	Vincent Nathan Freeman	32.00	
16.	Margaret Denise Shelton	10.36	
17.	Shayla Nicole Smalls	19.53	20.59
18.	Bear Garden, Inc.	40.15	
19.	Phyllis Jennings Toppings	17.30	
20.	Charles Durham Jarvis	32.59	
21.	Peter Stanley Frank Bogardus	18.48	
22.	David Howard France	8.43	
23.	Thomas Glendon Christopher II	21.02	
24.	Sarah Annette Richardson	6.76	5.40
25.	Tina Marie Weaver	15.66	
26.	Alan Keith Goupil	16.56	
27.	Michael Weisz	60.58	48.37
28.	Robert Jerry Wallace	8.50	6.79
29.	Steven Drew	35.18	28.09
30.	Donna Carole Harris	34.17	
31.	Edward Christopher Donaldson	33.36	
32.	Tyler James Liebno	78.19	
33.	Christopher Linneal Bryant	5.52	4.41
34.	Philip Gregory Benton	29.14	
35.	Timothy Timpson	10.79	

8. APPROVAL OF TAX RELEASES AND REFUNDS:

The Board considered the following tax releases and refunds requested by the Tax Department:

Releases:

		County	City
1.	David H. France	159.53	
2.	Thomas Glendon Christopher	136.71	
3.	Brian Nicholas Harwood	101.99	86.43
4.	Jennifer Marie Harwood	102.30	86.68
5.	Joshua Logan Quintero	153.80	122.79

6.	Ryan Matthew Polin	119.29	100.24
7.	Ryan Matthew Polin	141.79	118.21
8.	Christie Edwards	101.62	
9.	Jerry J. Krywanczyk	148.06	
10.	Matthew Scott Henry	110.92	
11.	Kevin Paul Valente	145.95	

Refunds:

1.	Jennifer Marie Harwood	182.33	141.77
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Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the tax releases and refunds as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

9. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Finance Officer Sheri Small outlined the following budget amendments and requested the Board's approval:

Debt Service

Increase	010.0700.4970.00	Loan Proceeds	10,943,309.00
Increase	010.9100.5700.23	Defeasance of Debt	10,943,309.00

DSS

Increase	011.0240.4536.00	LIHEAP Program	61,944.00
Increase	011.5400.5688.03	LIHEAP Program	61,944.00

DSS

Increase	011.0240.4548.00	Crisis Intervention	116,600.00
Increase	011.5400.5688.00	Crisis Intervention	116,600.00

DSS

Increase	011.0230.4547.00	Special Child Adoption	6,000.00
Increase	011.5310.5682.03	PP Adoption Awareness	6,000.00

Landfill

Increase	065.0230.4370.00	State Grants	27,083.00
Increase	065.7420.5600.00	Grant Funds	27,083.00

Landfill

Decrease	065.7420.5570.00	Landfill Improvements	60,000.00
Increase	065.7420.5440.00	Contracted Services	60,000.00

Transfer Station

Decrease	065.7420.5440.03	Contracted Services - Tsf Sta.	77,364.00
Increase	065.0550.4839.00	Miscellaneous Revenue	10,000.00
Increase	065.7430.5121.00	Salaries & Wages	12,850.00
Increase	065.7430.5126.00	Salaries & Wages - Part-time	33,000.00
Increase	065.7430.5181.00	FICA	3,510.00
Increase	065.7430.5183.00	Health Insurance	1,804.00
Increase	065.7430.5251.00	Gas & Oil	7,000.00
Increase	065.7430.5261.00	Departmental Supplies	2,600.00
Increase	065.7430.5310.00	Travel	600.00
Increase	065.7430.5351.00	Maintenance-Building	8,500.00
Increase	065.7430.5352.00	Maintenance-Equipment	12,000.00
Increase	065.7430.5353.00	Maintenance-Vehicles	5,500.00

Motion was made by Joe Winslow, seconded by Gary White to approve the budget amendments as outlined above. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dixon thanked staff for their work on the recent modification of the COPS financing agreement to correct an error by BB&T and defer the first payment which would have been due by June 1.

10. CONSIDERATION OF JULY MEETING SCHEDULE:

The Board discussed the July meeting schedule. The Clerk explained that historically the Board has held only one regular meeting in July due to the 4th of July holiday and completion of the budget. She stated that July 29th is the date for the next joint city-county meeting and if only one regular meeting is held, any additional business could be considered on July 29th.

Motion was made by Frankie Meads, seconded by Joe Winslow to hold only one regular meeting in July on July 15, 2013. The regular Commissioner meeting and Appointments Committee and Finance Committee meetings scheduled for July 1 will be cancelled. The motion carried unanimously.

11. PRESENTATION OF FY 2013-14 PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET:

Interim County Manager Rodney Bunch outlined the proposed county budget for FY 2013-14. He read the budget message and outlined budget graphs showing the sources of funds and where the money goes.

Discussion followed and Commissioner Lloyd Griffin stated that he believes the Emergency Medical Services budget should be divided so that the non-emergency transport service is separate from the rest of the EMS budget. He stated that the revenue from non-emergency transports should not be mixed up with the other EMS revenue. He said keeping the revenue separate will help maintain the level of hospital contributions to EMS. EMS Director Jerry Newell said there is no separation between the two because non-emergency transports use emergency medical technicians which are EMS employees. He explained that the emergency ambulances pick up the excess runs for the non-emergency transports and the non-emergency ambulances sometimes pick up excess runs for 911. He said crews on the emergency and the non-emergency vehicles must have at least an EMT-Basic certification to operate; both emergency and non-emergency crews must take the same classes; and all of the ambulances are equipped to respond to any type call. He noted that before taking over all non-emergency transports the EMS Department had one non-emergency transport ambulance that ran about 80 calls per month. Mr. Bunch said the process is identical to the way it was before except the transports have now more than tripled. Finance Officer Sheri Small said to get a cost perspective for emergency and non-emergency transports, it would be necessary to have drivers doing timesheets and it would be a bookkeeping nightmare. She stated that another issue would be the billing software. She added that the Board has previously discussed the need to reduce the county's dependence upon the hospital and this is what the EMS Department is doing. Mr. Bunch added that it boils down to keeping the budget as it is, but the Board is looking at trying to develop a way that establishes what the county expects from the others it serves, such as Camden County, or whatever is worked out with the new company that will lease the hospital.

Commissioner Frankie Meads asked why there was an increase of \$25,200 in the Landfill/Solid Waste budget. He said he would expect that budget to decrease this year. Mr. Bunch responded that the increase is due to the reinstatement of indirect cost payments to the county which have not been charged for several years. He said \$90,000 in indirect costs is included in this year's budget. He said if the indirect costs were not charged this year, the Landfill/Solid Waste budget would be \$65,000 less this year. Chairman Dixon noted that there is also an appropriation of \$368,159 from this year's Landfill/Solid Waste budget to capital reserve for the eventual closeout of the landfill which will cost millions of dollars. He said this is being done so when the time comes to close out the landfill it will not be such a large burden on the taxpayers.

Chairman Dixon thanked the members of the Board and staff for their work on the budget. He said when the budget process began it looked like a 5¢ tax increase would be needed, however that has now been reduced to a 1¢ tax increase. He added that the budget includes a 2% cost of living increase for county employees who have not had one since the 2008-09 fiscal year.

The proposed budget will be available for public inspection at the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library and at the County Manager's Office. A public hearing will be held on the budget at the June 17 Commissioner meeting.

12. REPORTS FROM INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER:

Interim County Manager Rodney Bunch said he would also like to thank the Board for working together and starting early during this first budget process for him. He stated that this allowed time over the past couple of weeks to put the budget together. He said he knows it has been a difficult process for everyone and no matter where the Commissioners stand on the tax increase,

each one has had a big part in the budget. Mr. Bunch also thanked Finance Officer Sheri Small for working with him to prepare the budget, and Clerk to the Board Karen Jennings for putting the budget together.

Mr. Bunch reported that the 2013 Group Work Camp which is sponsored by River City Community Development Corporation will be coming to the area on June 17. They plan to go to 25 sites in the county this year to do small jobs such as painting, repairing steps and building handicap ramps. Mr. Bunch stated that most of this work does not require inspections, with the exception of handicap ramps, and typically building permits have been waived for this work. He said unless there are any objections, those permits will be waived again this year.

Mr. Bunch advised that the building permits for the new EMS administration building have been issued by the city, the setup manual has been ordered, and drawings came in today. He said it is hoped the work can begin very soon.

13. CALENDAR:
The Clerk reviewed the calendar of upcoming meetings and events.

14. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:
Vice-Chairman Joe Winslow stated that the permits have been received for the Providence Volunteer Fire Department building addition. He said he understands that work will begin in the near future.

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin said he hopes to have a report at the next meeting regarding the Airport Authority's strategic plan.

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

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by Cecil Perry to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Karen Jennings
CLERK TO THE BOARD

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN