

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Monday, October 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the commissioners' conference room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those commissioners present were as follows: Chairman Leo Kelly, Jr., Vice-Chair Yolanda J. Feimster, Commissioners Dan Brummitt, Carolyn Faines, Thomas S. Hester, Jr., Archie B. Taylor, Jr., and Gordon Wilder.

Absent: None.

Also present were County Manager Jordan McMillen, Finance Director Katherine Bigelow County Attorney Jonathan S. Care, and Clerk to the Board Kelly H. Grissom.

The purpose of the special meeting was to enter into closed session to discuss an economic development project; in open session, approve minutes of a closed session, and discuss jail health services.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. to enter into closed session to discuss an economic development project. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines and unanimously approved.

Upon return to open session, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Gordon Wilder, vote unanimous, to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2022 closed session.

*Jail Health Services.* County Manager Jordan McMillen informed the board that Southern Heath Partners (SHP) terminated its jail health contract and concluded its services at the jail on Friday, October 14 after providing a two week notice. Multiple efforts have been made in coordination with the Health Department and Sheriff to locate a company or provider that could step in to assist on short notice.

He stated that three of the four companies that were contacted declined interest, and late Friday, October 14 StarMed Healthcare agreed to step in to help in the short term. He noted that the Health Department was instrumental in identifying StarMed which is an urgent care company located in Charlotte and health department nurses were critical in filling the gap over the first weekend until the transition was made. He stated that due to the potential risks and short timeframe for StarMed's startup coupled with the lack of local staff and our emergent situation, the cost for the first week was \$52,500 and the cost for the second week is \$40,000. StarMed is interested in

extending their contract for an additional 60 days and we have expressed concerns relative to cost if we are to agree to a longer term contract.

He noted that the potential risks without these services could be significantly higher than this amount, and staff are continuing to look for a long term solution which will require the need for a local physician to oversee the program as well as nurses to work in the jail. He stated that the Sheriff oversees the jail inclusive of the requirement to secure, provide, and maintain healthcare, while the County is responsible for the financial aspect.

He noted that the proposed budget amendment from fund balance should be adequate for up to the next 60 days, and he requested the board's retroactive approval of the first week's contract as well as approval of the second week's contract and to authorize the manager to approve additional contracts up to the next 60 days. Recommendation 1: Retroactively approve first week contract with StarMed Healthcare, approve second week contract and authorize the manager to finalize contracts for up to 60 additional days. Recommendation 2: Approve budget amendment from fund balance for jail health services.

Several board members expressed concerns with the outrageous prices from this company and noted that the budget amendment of \$400,000 for up to 60 days is more than the county was paying for a full year with the previous company. It was also noted that the county really does not have a choice at this time, but a solution needs to be found immediately. Mr. McMillen stated that he is in conversations with other companies at this time.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gordon Wilder to retroactively approve the first week contract with StarMed Healthcare, approve the second week contract, and authorize the manager to finalize contracts for up to 60 additional days. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and vote was ayes – six (6); noes – one (1), with the dissenting vote being cast by Commissioner Yolanda Feimster.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. to approve Budget Amendment #21 from Fund Balance for jail health services. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Dan Brummitt and vote was ayes – six (6); noes – one (1), with the dissenting vote being cast by Commissioner Yolanda Feimster.



**Budget Amendment #21**  
**FY 2022-2023**  
**Jail**

<b>Revenue Amendment Request</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Revenue Increase (Decrease)</b>
General Fund Balance	10-399-000000	400,000
<b>Total Revenue Increase (Decrease)</b>		<b>\$ 400,000</b>

  

<b>Expenditure Amendment Request</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Expense Increase (Decrease)</b>
Health Care – Drugs Medicine	10-520-500046	400,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 400,000</b>

Purpose: Jail Health – Up to amount to cover interim jail health costs.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners  
October 24, 2022

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As there was no further business, at 6:00 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Gordon Wilder, seconded by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr., vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

**Approved and signed November 7, 2022.**

**Leo Kelly, Jr. (signed)**  
**Leo Kelly, Jr., Chairman**