

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those Commissioners present were as follows: Chair R. Dan Brummitt, Vice-Chair Leo Kelly, Jr., Commissioners Sean A. Alston, Sr., Carolyn Faines, Yolanda J. Feimster, Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present were County Manager C. Renee Perry, Finance Director Stephanie Williams, County Attorney Jonathan S. Care, and Clerk to the Board Kelly H. Grissom.

Associate Minister Mary Anderson, Shiloh Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

Public comments were heard first. Ms. Teri Thomas stated that she lives in Maria Parham Apartments and does not have a working washing machine. She asked the board to include \$200,000 in the upcoming budget to establish an Office of Tenant Services, which would provide inspections, develop a landlord registry, and provide legal support for tenants.

Ms. Nicole Arrington informed the board about an issue with her landlord not making necessary repairs. She spoke in support of an Office of Tenant Services.

Ms. Sandra Butler Tubbs, NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature member, informed the board of various activities of the NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature and programs offered to seniors. She noted that committees are currently working on priorities to submit to the legislature. She also noted that the Vance County Senior Center was approved as a Center of Excellence in April. The board thanked Ms. Tubbs for her report.

Ms. Debbie Scott, Vance County Employee Engagement Team Member, was next on the agenda to recognize the new employee of the month. She noted that employees are nominated by their peers, and this month's recognition goes to Captain Billy Gooch with the Vance County Sheriff's Office. His peers noted that he is a team player, always makes himself available to help others, and creates a positive atmosphere of support and encouragement. Captain Gooch will receive a \$100 gift card and a designated parking space for the month. He was presented with a certificate of appreciation and the board congratulated him on receiving this recognition.

As advertised, the Board of Commissioners, sitting as the Board of Equalization and Review, heard the following persons concerning the value of certain properties which they felt was in excess of fair market value:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Property Address</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Charles Williams | 123 S. College Street Parcel: 0025 10013 |
| 2. Patricia Barry | 105 Sandy Lane Parcel: 0613 04034 |
| 3. Ben Hicks | 318 Pinecrest Road Parcel: 0037A02009 |
| 4. Angela Crudup | 1514 S. Williams Street Parcel: 0086 01004A |
| 5. Brenda Watkins | 271 South Lake Lodge Ext. Rd. Parcel: 0462A01003 |

All cases were continued until June 3 due to the fact that none of the property owners brought sufficient information (appraisals, sales comps, etc.) in order for the board to make a decision.

Logan Parsons, LKC Engineering, was next on the agenda and presented a resolution to accept grant funding from the 2023 Appropriations Act Directed Projects in the amount of \$3,880,000. The funding will be used towards the Phase 1B water project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, to approve the following resolution accepting the Directed Projects grant from the 2023 Appropriations Act:



RESOLUTION
by the
Vance County Board of Commissioners
Funding Project No. SRP-D-134-0054

WHEREAS, Vance County has received a Directed Projects grant from the 2023 Appropriations Act, Session Law 2023-134, administered through the Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve to assist eligible units of government with meeting their water/wastewater infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has offered 2023 Appropriations Act funding in the amount of \$3,880,000 to perform work detailed in the submitted application; and

WHEREAS, Vance County intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

1. That Vance County does hereby accept the 2023 Appropriations Act Directed Projects Grant offer of \$3,880,000 (Project No. SRP-D-134-0054).

2. That Vance County does hereby give assurance to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Award Offer will be adhered to.
3. That County Manager C. Renee Perry, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with this project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the Division of Water Infrastructure.

This, the 6th day of May, 2024.

**R. Dan Brummitt (signed)
R. Dan Brummitt, Chair
Vance County Board of Commissioners**

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Water District Board

At this time, Chair R. Dan Brummitt called the Water District Board to order.

Phase 1B Contract 2 – SCADA Proposal. Logan Parsons, LKC Engineering, presented two proposals for a SCADA system upgrade. He explained that the upgrade will allow the Water District to monitor and control the existing elevated tank in Kittrell.

Proposal #1 is from Custom Controls Unlimited, LLC and offers a complete remote monitoring and control SCADA system via a hosted cellular network and RTU panels installed at both the tank and control valve site. CCU builds the RTU panels in house and will handle all necessary panel fabrication, programming, installation, and setup as part of their scope of work. Delivery time from the approved quote is four to six weeks, depending on availability of parts, at a price of \$31,064.25.

Proposal #2 is from LKC Services, LLC and offers a complete remote monitoring and control SCADA system utilizing Mission Communications system with cellular network for hosting and access. A Mission unit will be installed at both the tank site and control valve site. Mission offers turn-key systems that do not require PLC programming or fabrication. LKC Services will purchase the equipment and provide all necessary installation and set-up for operation. Delivery time from the approved quote is two weeks at a price of \$18,512.10.

Following discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, to award the contract to LKC Services, LLC for the SCADA system upgrade in the amount of \$18,512.10.

The March 2024 monthly operations report was presented to the board for information. Chair Brummitt adjourned the Water District Board.

Committee Reports and Recommendations

Intergovernmental Committee. County Manager C. Renee Perry reported that the committee (Taylor, Kelly and Alston/absent); Brummitt attending, met with City of Henderson council members (Noel, Seifert) and city staff on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 to discuss a potential co-location of County EMS and a City Fire Department. The intergovernmental committee recommends creating another committee to further vet the potential partnership and bring recommendations back to the intergovernmental committee. Chair Brummitt has assigned the public safety committee (Alston, Brummitt, and Faines) as well as EMS Director Javier Plummer as the county's committee members. Future meetings will be scheduled after the county's FY 2024-25 budget has been adopted.

Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Stephanie Williams stated that according to financial policy guidelines adopted by the board in 2016, the board should receive a financial report each quarter. She provided this report which outlines year-to-date revenues and expenditures and the comparison of each amount to the budget as amended. The board thanked Ms. Williams for her report.

County Manager's Report

Fireworks Permit – Tourism. County Manager C. Renee Perry noted that the Vance County Tourism Department is requesting approval of a fireworks permit for its Independence Day celebration at Satterwhite Point Park at Kerr Lake on Saturday, July 6, 2024. According to Tourism Director Pam Hester, the TDA has obtained the necessary permits and approvals from NC State Parks and the Corps of Engineers, and the show will be contracted with a professional pyrotechnics firm which has the appropriate credentials and insurance coverage. Recommendation: Approve the request from Tourism for a permit and fee waiver to discharge fireworks at its Independence Day celebration at Satterwhite Point at Kerr Lake planned for Saturday, July 6, 2024, contingent upon the necessary approvals from the fire marshal.

Motion was made by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr., vote unanimous, to approve the request from Tourism for a permit and fee waiver to discharge fireworks at its Independence Day celebration at Satterwhite Point at Kerr Lake planned for Saturday, July 6, 2024, contingent upon the necessary approvals from the fire marshal.

Ambulance Franchise Application – North Central Medical Transport. Ms. Perry reported that the county’s Ambulance Franchise Ordinance requires providers to be certified at the Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advance Life Support (ALS) levels and requires them to provide backup emergency services as needed under the Vance County EMS system plan. Currently, North Central Medical Transport is operating at the BLS level and is unable to provide ALS level service. North Central Medical Transport is unable to meet franchise requirements at this time.

Ambulance Franchise Application – North State Medical Transport. Ms. Perry stated that North State Medical Transport has reapplied for its ambulance franchise. The application appears to meet the ordinance requirements and North State currently operates from a Vance County location. State law requires consideration of the franchise application at two separate meetings with the final consideration planned for the June 3rd meeting.

Revised Budget Calendar. Ms. Perry noted that Chapter 159 of the NC General Statutes, the Local Government Finance Act, requires presentation of a proposed budget to the Board of County Commissioners by June 1, 2024. The proposed budget will be presented to the board on May 16, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. The board reviewed the revised budget calendar and scheduled budget work sessions for Tuesday, May 21 and Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m. *Note: The May 16 meeting was later rescheduled to May 28 at 4:00 p.m.*

Board of E&R Meetings. Ms. Perry noted that the board of equalization and review will adjourn on June 3, 2024. This is the last day for property owners to file an appeal for real property. There is a chance of an increased influx of appeals through June 3, 2024, and there may be a need for additional days for the board of equalization and review. No action was taken on this matter.

Opioid PBM Update. Ms. Perry stated that the opioid consortium has recovered funds for North Carolina over the past eight years. There is an option to amend our complaint to include PBM (pharmacy benefit managers) in the national opioid litigation. If the complaint is amended, the county will have the opportunity to participate in additional recovery if there is a favorable resolution. She recommended that the board amend the county’s complaint.

Motion was made by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr. to approve the amendment of the county’s complaint to add the PBM Defendants, including subsidiaries. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and unanimously approved.

Board of E&R Rules of Procedure and Rules of Conduct. Ms. Perry advised that it would be appropriate for the board to formally adopt the rules of procedure and rules of conduct for the board of equalization and review.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr. to adopt the Board of Equalization and Review Rules of Procedure and Rules of Conduct as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Leo Kelly, Jr. and unanimously approved.

County Attorney’s Report

REO Property – New Offer. County Attorney Jonathan S. Care stated that an offer had been received from Bobbie Garner for a vacant lot located on Red Clay Lane – Parcel 0352A01029. The offer meets the requirements established by the board. He stated that the Board needs to vote on whether or not to proceed with the sale by advertising for upset bids and recommended approval of the resolution to begin the upset bid process.

Chair Brummitt questioned the minimum offer of \$900 and asked if it includes taxes owed. The Clerk informed him that the offer is 50% of the attorney’s fees, which is the norm. He asked staff to look into this to make sure this is correct. This matter was tabled until the June 3 regular meeting. *Following the meeting, it was determined that the minimum offer is correct and should not include taxes owed.*

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt, seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., vote unanimous, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: Budget Amendments #11 and #12, March 2024 Tax Refunds and Releases, Departmental Monthly Reports, and the minutes of the April 1, 2024 regular meeting and the April 15, 2024 work session.



**Budget Amendment #11
FY 2023-2024
Sheriff**

| Revenue Amendment Request | Account Number | Revenue Increase (Decrease) |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Public Safety Grant | 10-380-438006 | 691,536 |
| Total Revenue Increase (Decrease) | | \$ 691,536 |

| Expenditure Amendment Request | Account Number | Expense Increase (Decrease) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Capital Outlay | 10-510-500074 | 691,536 |
| Total | | \$ 691,536 |

Purpose: To purchase body and in-car cameras for Sheriff's Office.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
May 6, 2024

**Budget Amendment #12
FY 2023-2024
Sheriff**

| Revenue Amendment Request | Account Number | Revenue Increase (Decrease) |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| General Fund Balance | 10-399-439900 | 53,000 |
| Total Revenue Increase (Decrease) | | \$ 53,000 |

| Expenditure Amendment Request | Account Number | Expense Increase (Decrease) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Capital Outlay | 10-510-500074 | 53,000 |
| Total | | \$ 53,000 |

Purpose: To purchase cars for Sheriff's Office.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners
May 6, 2024

TAX OFFICE REFUND AND RELEASE REPORT FOR MARCH 2024

| TAXPAYER NAME | TAX YR | REAL | PERSONAL | SOLID WASTE FEE | REASON |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| BROWN TAMIKO N | 2022 | \$477.25 | \$0.00 | 120 | CORRECT VALUE |
| ZHENG YI ZHI | 2023 | \$0.00 | \$126.24 | 0 | PERS PROP BILLED |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | CORRECT DUE DATE |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | VAL ADJ FOR PRES |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | CORRECT VALUE |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$124.64 | \$0.00 | 0 | VAL ADJ FOR PRES |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | CORRECT VALUE |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | VAL ADJ FOR PRES |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | VAL ADJ FOR PRES |
| WEST LINDA GILL | 2024 | \$579.23 | \$0.00 | 0 | VAL ADJ FOR PRES |
| Z AND Z AUTOMOTIVE LLC | 2024 | \$0.00 | \$540.61 | 0 | PERS PROP BILLED |
| BRAME CURTIS RODNEY | 2024 | \$0.00 | \$25.26 | 0 | REG VEH BILLED I |
| GUPTON HENRY LEE | 2024 | \$0.00 | \$9.88 | 0 | REG VEH BILLED I |
| WHITE PETER III | 2024 | \$0.00 | \$4.86 | 0 | REG VEH BILLED I |
| | | \$4,656.50 | \$706.85 | | |

MONTHLY REPORTS: 911 Emergency Operations, Administrative Ambulance Charge-Offs, Cooperative Extension, EMS, Human Resources, Information Technology, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Development, Tax Office, and Veterans Service.

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Miscellaneous

The following appointments were presented to the board for consideration:

Adult Care Advisory Committee – 3 year term
Reappoint June Royster-Tucker and Lois Williams

Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board – initial 1 year term
One application received from Jennifer Jones.

Vance County Planning Board and Board of Adjustments – 3 year term
Two applications received for District 6 vacancy from Katie Richardson and James Baines.

Motion was made Commissioner Yolanda Feimster to reappoint June Royster-Tucker and Lois Williams to the Adult Care Advisory Committee and to appoint Jennifer Jones to the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Yolanda Feimster, seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, to appoint Katie Richardson to the Vance County Planning Board and Board of Adjustments.

At this time, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, to enter into closed session to discuss a property matter.

Upon return to open session, motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024 closed session. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Leo Kelly, Jr. and unanimously approved.

As there was no further business, at 8:15 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr., vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

Approved and signed June 3, 2024.

R. Dan Brummitt (signed)
R. Dan Brummitt, Chair