

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
JULY 6, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE CARMON AUDITORIUM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN LEONARD WIGGINS AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman, Rev. E. Wayne Hines, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Viola Harris, Mr. Donald Boswell, Mr. William Wooten, Mr. Ralph Webb and Mrs. Evelyn Powell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Eric Evans, County Manager, Mrs. Natalie Bess, Deputy County Manager, Mr. Michael Peters, County Attorney and Ms. Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS.

Mrs. Bess provided safety instructions.

3. PRAYER.

Rev. Hines provided prayer.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

Rev. Hines moved to approve the June 7, 2021 and June 21, 2021 minutes as presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS.

A. Karen Lachapelle, Health Director, presented COVID-19 update.

Mrs. Lachapelle stated that as of June 1, 2021, reported to her by the DHHS Edgecombe County has 5,704 cases of COVID-19 and a total of 118 deaths. We still have Optum Serve testing at Heritage Park in Princeville and at Pinetops behind Town Hall. You can still be tested at Freedom Hill, Vidant Multispecialty Clinic and OIC.

Mrs. Lachapelle provided COVID-19 case information relative to total cases, age groups, gender, race, hospitalizations, deaths (age, gender); number of vaccines given, sites participating in vaccination clinics. She stated that we have a decline in the number of vaccines they are giving daily at the Health Department. They have reduced the number of COVID Vaccine Clinics to Thursdays and Fridays, 9 am to 4 pm in both offices. They are getting ready to start their community outreach.

B. Tabetha Summerlin, Chief Information Officer, presented the updated website.

Ms. Summerlin presented the changes and updates on the County's website, which is more user friendly.

6. PUBLIC PETITIONS.

- Mr. Evans read a public petition submitted via email from Cheryl Bynum, DSS staff member:

*Good morning (or afternoon, whichever the case may be),
May I take this opportunity to thank our Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners?*

Thank you.

We appreciate all that you do for Edgecombe County.

Sincerely,

Cheryl

7. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of Resolution Adopting the Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting Schedule.

Mr. Evans stated that in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Board previously amended their meeting schedule to move the location to the Carmon Auditorium. At the last meeting the Board expressed that they would like to return the meetings to the Johnathan Felton Commissioners' Room. Mr. Evans presented for Board consideration a resolution to revise the meeting location for the remainder of 2021.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the revised meeting location as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement related to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation.

Mr. Evans stated that a settlement is close to being reached regarding the ongoing opioid litigation. The National Association of Counties along with the NC Association of County Commissioners have been instrumental in helping to craft a settlement agreement that will include funding provided directly to counties. These funds can be used for a number of opioid remediation activities. Mr. Evans presented a MOA to enable the State and its counties to maximize these resources in abating this crisis. He recommended that the Board approve the resolution as presented.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Approval of Centurylink easement purchase.

Mr. Evans stated an offer to purchase a permanent easement was received from CenturyLink. The easement would allow them to access and maintain equipment located on property the county owns at the northwest corner of what was formerly Midlakes Mobile Home Park. The offer is \$10,000. The easement will not impede or disrupt any activity or use of the County's property.

Mrs. Powell moved to approve the easement agreement as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of lease agreement with NC Department of Public Safety-Juvenile Justice.

Mr. Evans stated that the County provides space for staff with the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Juvenile Justice at the Rocky Mount Judicial Center. This no-cost lease agreement is due to be renewed. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board approve the lease agreement as presented and authorize him to execute the same.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the lease agreement as presented and to authorize the Manager to execute. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F. Approval of declaring Sheriff's Office van as surplus.

Mr. Evans stated that Sheriff Atkinson is recommending that one of his vans, which he no longer uses, be declared surplus and donated to Michael's angels Girl's Club. This is a 1999 Model, 15-Passenger Ford Van. It has 163,000 miles.

NC General Statutes allow the County to convey property to an entity that carries out a public purpose. He stated that a public notice is required after a resolution is passed, and the sale cannot be completed until 10 days after the notice. Considering the benefit this will provide to our citizens through the programs offered by Michael's angel Girl's Club, he recommended that the Board approve the resolution, which will authorize the sale of this van for \$1 to Michael's Angel Girl's Club, Inc.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. APPOINTMENTS.

A. Rocky Mount-Wilson Airport Board.

Mr. Webb moved to re-appoint Mr. Carl Warren. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Edgecombe Community College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Powell moved to re-appoint Rev. Jerry Spruell. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Tarboro-Edgecombe Arts Commission.

Mrs. Harris moved to appoint Mr. Robert Cassanova and Mr. Kristian Herring. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Human Services Board.

Rev. Hines moved to appoint Mrs. Vila Anderson (at-large), Mrs. Tara Honesty (at-large) and Mrs. Addie Carmon (consumer/advocate). Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. PLANNING BOARD REPORT. ***Received***

A. Request for text amendment from Gina Andrews.

B. Minutes of June 10, 2021 meeting.

10. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.***Received***

A. Water Services.

B. Financial Summary report.

C. Elections – Session Law 2021-56.

12. MANAGER'S REPORT.***Received***

A. Workforce Development indicators.

B. NC Retirement Benefit Cap.

C. Sales Tax report.

13. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

None.

14. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.

None.

15. CLOSED SESSION.

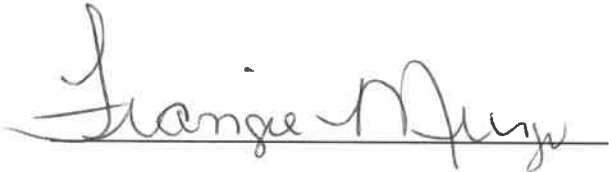
Mr. Boswell moved to go into closed session to discuss:

A. Economic Development. [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3)]

Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

16. MR. BOSWELL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL AUGUST 2, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. MR. WOOTEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved August 2, 2021,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frankie Mungo", written over a horizontal line.

Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board