

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
JANUARY 4, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.
CARMON AUDITORIUM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
201 SAINT ANDREW STREET
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, Mr. Donald Boswell, Mr. William Wooten, Mrs. Viola Harris, Mr. Ralph Webb and Mrs. Evelyn Powell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

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

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS.

Mr. Evans provided the safety instructions.

3. PRAYER.

Rev. Hines provided the prayer.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Evans stated that a correction was needed in the December 7, 2020 minutes regarding the "Elections of Officers" item where Mr. Felton's name should be replaced with Rev. Hines' name.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT.

A. Mr. Shawn Olson, Representatives from CloudWyze, provided an update on broadband project and included visuals. After his presentation he answered questions from the Board.

6. PUBLIC PETITIONS.

West Edgecombe Baptist Church members, Mr. Jimmy and Mrs. Carolyn Carson , One in Christ Ministry, came forth. Mr. Carson stated:

"We come to you all tonight to let you know that we are praying for you, will keep supporting you. We continue to appreciate your efforts to provide excellent leadership and decision making for the County of Edgecombe. Our goal is to contact all churches in Edgecombe County, who believe the Word of God, Our Holy Bible, is pure and true. We will invite them to join in scripture prayer for you and Edgecombe County. Realizing this is a big undertaking and believe that God will provide the way and the increase. We want to thank you all for all that you do and we want you to know that we support you whole heartedly. "

Mr. Carson prayed for the Board and they presented tokens of appreciation.

Mr. Curmilus Dancy read the following:

Edgecombe County Commissioners' Board Meetings Concerns January 2021

1. Why the Commissioners' meeting are not live streamed? The following is the options that the Edgecombe County School System have for their meetings. However I have been told

that the County have Departmental meetings and other that are live streamed. I find it interesting that the citizens are not able to see your meetings via live stream. Why?

2. Edgecombe County Health Department - Why the county are not sharing more information about the COVID like Nash County? We understand the HIPPA Law and we are not asking for names but other information such as demographics.

3. I am glad this board has taken over the EMS and purchased new vehicles however I find it interesting the person that was EMS Director before the county took over resigned. Makes me wonder why. I found it interesting this board gave the EMS hundreds of thousands of dollars just last year but the Sheriff Office was given little to none.

4. I find it interesting that Edgecombe County is known to hire family members within the county but it is hard for Blacks to get hired in the county especially family members so therefore when they go off to school they do not return.

5. Sources say it appears that if the county staff do not hold titles that they are left out of important decisions that they feel they should have some input.

6. Again this year when it came time to vote on the chair and vice chair of this board, I find it interesting that obviously the females are overlooked. Why is it this board has not elected a female chair and/or vice chair over the years?

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns.

Have a good evening!

Curmibus Dancy II

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7. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mr. Evans provided explanations on several of the budget amendments.

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

B. Approval of Governor's Crime Commission Grant application.

Mr. Evans stated that Sheriff Atkinson plans to apply to the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Governor's Crime Commission under the Criminal Justice Systems Improvement program. The grant request is in the amount of \$24,500 to purchase a License Plate Reader. The grant does not require a match.

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

C. Proposed Fire Arms Ordinance.

Mr. Evans stated that sheriff Atkinson is asking that the Board take into consideration a draft ordinance related to firearms. We have had some complaints from citizens regarding incidents involving the discharge of firearms. This ordinance would put in place protective measures and a means of enforcement. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board call for a public hearing to be held at the February meeting.

Sheriff Atkinson provided information regarding the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Boswell moved to call for and hold a public hearing at the February 1, 2020 meeting. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Approval of Change Order for Flood Mitigation Measures with HG Reynolds

Company.

Mr. Evans stated that we have HG Reynolds Co, Inc. under contract to perform FEMA-funded flood mitigation work at the Courthouse. Mr. Evans presented for Board approval change order #1 to add three items needed that were not included in the original specifications. The proposed change order adds \$11,691 for a total contract cost of \$752,506.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the change order as presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of Change Order for Mold Mitigation with H.G. Reynolds Company.

Mr. Evans stated that we have HG Reynolds Co, Inc. under contract to perform mold mitigation work at the Courthouse. He presented for Board approval change order #3 to add stabilization and protection of newly installed dehumidifiers, which was not included in the original scope. The proposed change order adds \$6,385 for a total contract cost of \$576,303.

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

8. APPOINTMENTS.

A. Rocky Mount Board of Adjustment.

None.

B. Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments Board of Directors.

None.

C. Tourism Development Authority.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the appointment of Mrs. Candis Owens. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. EMS Advisory Board.

Rev. Hines moved to approve the appointment of the following slate:

Commissioner:

Mr. Donald Boswell

Ex-officio seats:

Mr. Eric Evans, County Manager

Mr. Mark Walters, Emergency Services Director

Dr. Barry Bunn, Director of Emergency Medicine Vidant-Edgecombe

3 Emergency Medical Technicians:

Basic – Brian Ferrer

Paramedic -None

Supervisor – Antwan Brown

2 members at large:

Kerry Lyndaker

None

Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Human Services Board.

Mrs. Powell moved to approve the appointment of Dr. Glenda Lawrence-Knight. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

Mrs. Powell moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Yvette Jones. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.*RECEIVED*****

A. Sheriff Clee Atkinson addressed the needs of his Office.

- B. Mr. Evans introduced Mike Matthews as the newly Water Services update provided by Mike Matthews, Water & Sewer Director.
- C. Financial Summary report.
- D. COVID-19 update provided by Karen Lachapelle, Health Director.

11. **MANAGER'S REPORT.***RECEIVED*****

A. Planning and Inspections update on re-inspection fees and Building Inspector position.

B. Update on the transition of rescue services.

After discussion, Mr. Wooten moved to terminate the franchise agreement with the Edgecombe Rescue Squad. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Workforce Development Indicators.

12. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.**

Mrs. Harris expressed concern regarding the trash and standing water in the ditches in the County.

13. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT.**

None.

14. **CLOSED SESSION.**

Rev. Hines moved to go into closed session to discuss:

A. Economic Development. [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4)]

B. Legal matter. [Per N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(3)]

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

Rev. Hines moved to go out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

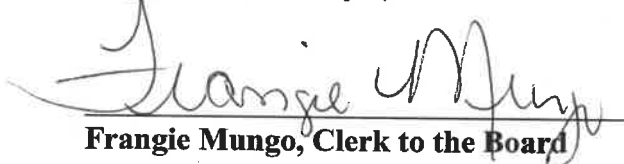
After Board discussion on Rescue Squad employee's vacation and sick leave and retirement as County employees Mr. Wooten made a motion to approve a budget amendment for \$270,000 appropriating directly to the Rescue Squad to be used for 240 hours of vacation leave for people in question (\$120,000) and \$150,000 for operations. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Decision on sick leave pay for employees retiring was tabled.

Mr. Evans passed out a copy of Senate Bill 382 from Rev. Roosevelt Higgs.

15. **MR. WOOTEN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. MR. BOSWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

Approved February 1, 2021.


Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board