

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2020. Members present: Chairman Clark Wooten, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Jerol Kivett and Thaddeus Godwin. Absent: Outgoing Commissioner Harry Parker.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order and acknowledged Vice Chairperson Sue Lee who called on Rev. Harvey Robinson to provide the invocation. Vice Chairperson Sue Lee then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 1: Swearing In Ceremony

Chairman Wooten recognized Judge Henry L. Stevens, who proceeded to swear in Commissioners Jerol Kivett and Lethia Lee; Register of Deeds Anita Lane; and Soil and Water Supervisors Curtis Barwick and Thomas Hobbs. (Oaths filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)

Item 2: Annual Organization of the Board

The Chairman acknowledged County Manager Ed Causey who then conducted the election for Chairman. Vice Chairperson Sue Lee nominated Commissioner Clark Wooten. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Clark Wooten as Chairman. Newly elected Chairman Wooten conducted the election for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Thaddeus Godwin nominated Commissioner Sue Lee. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Sue Lee as Vice Chairperson.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following additions: Item 3 (d), Sampson County Schools Feasibility Report Presentation was added to the agenda.

Item 3: Reports and Presentations

Public Health Department - COVID-19 Update Health Director Wanda Robinson provided an update on COVID-19 in Sampson County and the State-established COVID-19 County Alert System, a metrics tool used to provide understanding of the status of each county as it relates to testing results. The system

categorizes counties into three tiers: Yellow (Significant Community Spread), Orange (Substantial Community Spread), and Red (Critical Community Spread) based on three metrics: case rate, the percentage of positive tests, and hospital impact within the county. Ms. Robinson noted that the county had been identified as having critical community spread (>10% positivity rate) before later decreasing to having substantial community spread (8-10% positivity rate) during the weeks of November 6-19, 2020. Ms. Robinson noted that the status could likely return to critical due to the increase in positive test results. She then asked the Board for support by adopting a resolution encouraging Sampson County citizens to engage in COVID-19 mitigation measures, wear cloth face coverings in accordance with the White House Coronavirus Task Force recommendations and CDC guidelines. She noted that the County was expected to receive the first allocation of vaccinations by December 14, 2020, and that the Health Department is preparing for administering the vaccination based on guidelines from the State. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution Urging Sampson County Citizens To Follow Public Health Recommendations To Prevent the Spread of the COVID-19 Virus, as printed (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____).

Clinton City Schools – Presentation of 2020/21 Facility Needs Survey Clinton City Schools Executive Director of Technology & Auxiliary Services John Lowe presented the survey to the Board, noting Average Daily Membership totals, pertinent maintenance needs such as roofing, parking lot paving, HVAC and plumbing, outdoor athletic facilities, and structural repair costs for the College Street building which could total to \$4,500,000 over 5-10 years, which equates to approximately 39% of the total renovation total of the survey. Commissioner Kivett expressed concern for total presented for the College Street building, which is currently not being used, and inquired if it would be better to demolish the building and build another. Mr. Lowe noted that one engineer had advised the same; however, due to the historical value of the building the school system was inquiring about alternate funding options and partnerships with other agencies. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lethia Lee, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman and County Manager to sign the certification page of the survey (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____).

(WALK ON) Sampson County Schools – Presentation of 2020/21 Facility Needs Survey Sampson County Schools Executive Director of Auxiliary Services Mark Hammond presented the survey to the Board, noting roofing renovation needs at Clement Elementary School in the amount of \$1,365,440, window renovations at Hargrove Elementary School in the amount of \$1,160,873, and roofing renovation needs at Lakewood High School in the amount of \$1,160,085. Mr. Hammond then noted that within the 6-10-year range of the plan, the school system will be looking to build a new Hobbton High School, with an estimated cost of \$37,546,395. Upon a

motion made by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman and County Manager to sign the certification page of the survey (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____).

Recognition of Brian Royal as Recipient of NCRWA's Bud Pate Service Award
Public Works Director presented Mr. Royal to the Board as he was recognized for his outstanding service to the citizens of the County and as a recipient of the NCRWA's Bud Pate Award.

Item 4: Actions Items

Designation of Voting Delegate for NCACC 2021 Legislative Goals Conference
Upon a motion made by Chairman Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to designate Commissioner Kivett as the voting delegate for the NCACC 2021 Legislative Goals Conference. County Manager Ed Causey will serve as the alternate voting delegate, if needed.

Appointments - Health Advisory Board Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Linda Peterson to the Health Advisory Board.

Appointments - Child Fatality Prevention Team/Community Child Protection Team Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Chairman Wooten, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner Lethia Lee to the Child Fatality Prevention Team/Community Child Protection Team.

Appointments - Convention and Visitors Bureau Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Sharad Sarati to the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Appointments - Sampson Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Perry Solice, Will Waters, and to appoint Holden Dubose and Tara Jackson to the Sampson Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees.

Appointments - Airport Advisory Board Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Commissioner Jerol Kivett and Teddy St. Pierre to the Airport Advisory Board.

Appointments - Fire Commission Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to

reappoint Chairman Clark Wooten (County Commissioner appointee), Ronald Bass (Director of Emergency Services appointee), Jerry Cashwell (Sampson County Fire Marshal appointee), Billy Lockamy (Citizen/Insurance Industry appointee), Ken Jackson (Fire Chief recommended by Fire Association), and Anthony Troublefield (Rescue Association President appointee), and appoint Alan Williams (Fire Association President appointee) to the Fire Commission.

Appointments - Planning Board Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Jason Tyndall and Gail Gainey to the Planning Board.

Item 5: Consent Agenda (General)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Approved the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting
- b. Approved the Department of Aging’s submission of an application for United Way funding in the amount of \$30,000 for construction of wheelchair ramps (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____.)
- c. Approved the revised policies for the Sampson-Clinton Public Library: Code of Conduct, Collection Development Policy, Computer/Internet Policy, Exhibit Policy, Privacy of Records Policy, Safe Child Policy, Volunteer Policy (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____.)
- d. Adopted the resolution authorizing Chairman to execute the bulk water purchase agreement between Sampson County and the City of Clinton (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____ Page ____.)
- e. Approved the recommended names for private roads (public hearing held on November 2, 2020): Taylors Creek Way (PVT 1446 5404); Merlin Court (PVT 1446 5404 47); Southern Home Lane (PVT 421WIL 1961)
- f. Approved the late applications for disabled veterans tax exclusion for Kim A. Newton, James H. Smith, Alonzo J. Vann, and Colin Stoeckel
- g. Approved a late present land use application for Micah/Holly Brewington
- h. Approved a late property tax exemption/release of applicable taxes for Enviva Pellet LLC
- i. Approved tax refunds and releases as submitted:

#9444	Fred Douglas Best/Edith Best Cox	\$110.02
#9437	Melissa Boney	\$344.55

#9435	Charles Cotton	\$156.13
#9411	Benjamin Coleman	\$409.50
#9425	Reginald Thompson, Jr.	\$180.18
#9423	Arnulfo Gonzalez and Kita Leon	\$178.63
#9407	Augustine Farms, Inc.	\$2,366.65
Tax Release	Blanca Vera	\$136.13
Tax Release	James Matthews	\$265.57
Tax Release	Timothy Mitchell	\$220.94
Tax Release	Eddie Honeycutt	\$247.50
Tax Release	Paula Zuniga	\$146.71
Tax Release	Gary Royal	\$150.12
Tax Release	Charlie Royal	\$115.31
Tax Release	Stuart Blount	\$342.38
Tax Release	Roy Kelly	\$443.72

j. Approved budget amendments as submitted:

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Sampson County CVB	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	
84761800	537000	Advertising and Marketing	\$13,000.00

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
84036180	408900	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$13,000.00

EXPENDITURE

		Sheriff	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	
11243100	581000	Transfer to State Agency (Weapon)	\$20,000.00

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
11034310	404115	Concealed Weapons Fee	\$20,000.00

EXPENDITURE

		Cooperative Extension	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	
11449500	526200	Dept. Supplies	\$3,675.00
11449500	529900	Misc Expenses	\$3,400.00
11449500	531100	Travel	\$450.00
11449500	532100	Telephone & Postage	\$800.00
11449500	535200	Maint./Repair Equip	\$2,000.00
11449500	541000	Rental Fees-Buildings	\$625.00
11449500	544000	Contracted Services	\$2,000.00
11449500	545000	Insurance & Bonds	\$500.00
11449500	549100	Dues & Subscriptions	\$300.00
11449500	535100	Maintenance/Repair Buildings & Gro	\$8,855.00

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034950	408900	Misc Revenue	\$22,605.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
84761800	537000	Advertising and Marketing	\$8,356.31	
84761800	544000	Contracted Services	\$2,393.69	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
84036180	408900	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$10,749.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13553770	568405	Foster Care Basic Needs	\$22,100	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13535310	408900	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$22,100.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
67981800	519500	Engineering	\$385,000.00	
67981800	519900	Other Professional Services	\$50,000.00	
67981800	509700	Contingency	\$247,500.00	
67981800	558100	Construction Costs	\$2,465,500.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
67038180	409100	Loan Proceeds	\$3,148,000.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11142600	535100	Maint Repair Buildings and Grounds	\$100,000.00	
21142600	582097	Transfer to General Fund	\$100,000.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034260	409619	Transfer from Capital Reserve	\$100,000.00	
21034260	409900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$100,000.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
16145000	535300	Maint/Repair Vehicles	\$89,841.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
16134500	403611	DHHS Cares Act	\$89,841.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12551600	512100	Salaries	\$9,383.00	
12551600	518100	FICA	\$582.00	
12551600	518120	Medicare FICA	\$137.00	
12551600	518200	Retirement	\$710.00	
12551600	518300	Group Insurance	\$1,610.00	
12551600	518400	Dental Insurance	\$59.00	
12551600	518901	401K	\$705.00	
12551600	523902	Medical Service PVT Vaccines	\$7,230.00	
12551600	526201	Department Supplies Equipment	\$13,000.00	
12551600	526200	Department Supplies	\$50.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12535160	404000	State Assistance	\$33,466.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
025588000	526200	Nutrition – Dept Supplies	\$4,950.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02035880	408900	Nutrition – Misc Revenue	\$4,950.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02558670	526200	Home Repairs – Dept Supplies	\$162.00	
02558670	526201	Home Repairs – Dept Supplies - Equi	\$3,144.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02035867	408900	Home Repairs – Misc Revenue	\$3,306.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02558680	526200	Senior Center – Dept Supplies	\$2,175.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02035868	408401	Senior Center – Donations	\$2,175.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Aging		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02558680	526200	Senior Center – Dept Supplies	\$2,175.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02035868	408401	Senior Center – Donations	\$2,175.00	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Library		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11761100	544200	Cultural Programming	\$800.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11036110	408900	Misc. Revenue	\$800.00	

Consent Agenda (Board of Health)

- k. Approved the Electronic Health Imaging Policy
- l. Approved the Health Advisory Committee Operating Policy
- m. Approved the Health Advisory Committee Conflict of Interest Policy
- n. Approved the Sampson County Health Department Fiscal Policy

Item 6: Board Information (Board of Health)

The following item were provided to the Board as information only.

- a. Health Advisory Board Minutes, September 21, 2020
- b. Dangerous Dog Appeal Hearing Minutes, September 29, 2020

Item 7: County Manager’s Report

County Manager Ed Causey reminded the Board that the annual audit was being completed and submitted to the Local Government Commission, and that staff would present it in January 2021. He also mentioned the Monday, January 14, 2020 meeting with ADW Architects regarding the 911 and Emergency Services Facility.

Item 8: Public Comment Period

Mattie Murphy: Good evening. I’m Mattie Murphy and I am here in reference to a letter that I received from the Sampson County Tax Office, dated October 28th. And I was hoping that you all would have a copy to look at because I had earmarked it Exhibit A. It stated that they were going to send everybody that owed delinquent taxes to the

North Carolina Internal Revenue. I'm not questioning the delinquent taxes. I am questioning the timing of the letter, when the nation, and this county and every other county is in a crisis. And I stand here tonight to represent a group of people that are low income people, people that are at or below poverty level, people with one income, people who once upon a time had two incomes but now no income. I'm not asking you to waive the taxes, because everybody has got to pay taxes if you want your property. But I was asking if this letter could be waived or if it has not already been sent to internal revenue, if you could maybe hold off on it until the new fiscal year. You know, everybody pays taxes and I know you say some people has paid their taxes, but just because I drive a fine car, or live in a big house doesn't necessarily mean I'm where I'm supposed to be. And I just think people are struggling now. As a matter of fact, I know they are, especially the senior population. That's who I deal with, that's who I work with. I know the cries of them. I know the fears of them. And now with the pandemic and isolation everybody is fearful. So that's my main concern being here, and I was hoping that everybody would be able to see that letter and see my response to the letter.

Ms. Murphy noted that she had spoken to a Tax Office employee, County Manager Ed Causey, and her commissioner prior to attending the meeting. She then asked if she should return to the Board for further guidance. The Board directed Ms. Murphy to the Tax Department.

Recess to Reconvene

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to recess to reconvene on December 14, 2020 for the ADW Architect's presentation.

/copy on file in Clerk's Office

Clark H. Wooten, Chairman

/copy on file in Clerk's Office

Susan J. Holder, Clerk to the Board