

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 6, 2021 in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Clark Wooten, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Thaddeus Godwin, Jerol Kivett, and Lethia Lee.

Chairman Clark Wooten called the meeting to order and acknowledged Vice Chairperson Sue Lee who called upon Assistant County Manager Susan Holder to provide the invocation. Commissioner Thaddeus Godwin then led the Pledge of Allegiance and made note of the upcoming Pear Harbor Remembrance Day.

**Item 1:                    Organization of the Board**

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

**Item 2:                    Reports and Presentations**

Update on the Status of Audit Chairperson Sue Lee called upon County Manager Ed Causey to give an update on the status of the County Audit. Mr. Causey informed the Board that the audit was not complete, but it had begun. Mr. Causey commended Wade Greene and his firm for their work and stated that the firm has a good reputation for completing the necessary work in the time frame provided. Mr. Causey then stated that the audit is expected to be completed by the end of the December and presented at the January Board Meeting.

**Item 3:                    Planning and Zoning**

Public Hearing - I-40 Corridor Rezoning - Unzoned to Residential Agricultural Chairperson Sue Lee opened the public hearing and called upon Senior Planner Austin Brinkley to review a recommendation by the Planning Board to rezone approximately 330 parcels on the I-40 corridor from Unzoned to Residential Agricultural. Hearing no questions from the Board or the public, Chairperson Lee closed the public hearing. Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Jerol Kivett and a second by Commissioner Thaddeus

Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to approve by resolution the proposed rezoning of 330 tax parcels from Unzoned to Residential Agricultural and to adopt the following zoning consistency statement: *The Sampson County Board of Commissioners does hereby find and determine that the rezoning of 330 tax parcels located within 1,500 ft of the I-40 right-of-way and further described by resolution to be consistent with the County's land use plan, consistent with the Rural Residential/Agriculture Land Use designation and positively aligning with the main purpose and intent of such designation, and in the best public interest.* (Resolution filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Public Hearing - Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment - Private Family Cemeteries Chairperson Sue Lee opened the public hearing a called upon Senior Planner Austin Brinkley to review a Zoning Ordinance text amendment to incorporate new language and standards for Private Family Cemeteries. Following Mr. Brinkley's review, Reverend Jimmy Melvin inquired about existing properties being grandfathered in concerning the new amendment to the ordinance. Mr. Brinkley clarified that any changes to text would not have an effect on pre-existing properties. Chairperson Sue Lee closed the public hearing, and upon a motion by Commissioner Thaddeus Godwin and a second by Vice Chairman Jerol Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to approve by resolution the proposed text amendment to the Sampson County Zoning Ordinance and to adopt the following consistency statement: *The Sampson County Board of Commissioners does hereby find and determine that the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Sampson County Land Use Plan and other long range planning documents and in the best public interest.* (Resolution filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Public Hearing - Subdivision Ordinance Text Amendment Chairperson Sue Lee opened the public hearing and called upon Senior Planner Austin Brinkley to review a Subdivision Ordinance text amendment which revises the text regarding Section 106(D) to bring the language into alignment with the intent of G.S. 160D-802(c), introduces text in the Family Division section to clarify the process for establishing a Private Family Cemetery, and introduces standards for recording a plat for the sole purpose of establishing an easement to a pre-existing landlocked parcel. Hearing no questions from the Board or the public, Chairperson Lee closed the public hearing. Following a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Lethia Lee, the Board voted unanimously to approve by resolution the proposed text amendment to the Sampson County Subdivision Ordinance and adopt the following consistency statement: *The Sampson County Board of Commissioners does hereby find and determine that the proposed Subdivision Ordinance amendment to be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Sampson County Land Use Plan and other long range planning documents and in the best public interest.* (Resolution filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**Item 4: Action Items**

Consideration of Formation of New Regional Workforce Development Area and Workforce Development Board County Manager Ed Causey introduced Justin Hembree, the new Executive Director of the Mid Carolina Regional Council, who explained that currently the counties of Chatham, Harnett, Lee, and Sampson cooperate to provide workforce development services through the Triangle South Workforce Development Area/Workforce Development Board, with Central Carolina Community College serving as the grant administrator for the Workforce Board. After the Cumberland County Workforce Development Program was transferred to the Mid Carolina Council of Government in June, conversations began between staff and elected officials in Sampson, Cumberland, and Harnett regarding interest in looking at workforce development on a more regional basis and reexamining the way the workforce development programs administrated. Based upon these discussions and those with Central Carolina Community College and Mid Carolina Council of Governments, there is an interest in forming a new regional workforce area/workforce development board to be known as the Mid-Carolina Workforce Area/Workforce Development Board, with the Mid Carolina Regional Council as the grant administrator for the new workforce area. Upon a motion by Chairperson Sue Lee and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution of support to create and join the new workforce development area. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Discussion of Appropriations for Sampson County in Newly Approved State Budget Chairperson Lee called on County Manager Causey who informed the Board that Sampson County and some of its municipalities were fortunate to receive appropriations in the State’s newly adopted budget totaling \$22,616,389. Mr. Causey explained the focus areas for the anticipated funding including water and sewer improvements and other capital projects, as generally categorized:

County Water/Sewer Needs	\$ 10,717,000	
Misc. County Projects	\$ 4,600,000	
EM/Sheriff Storage Facility	\$ 3,000,000	
Health Depart Grant	\$ 143,959	
Municipal Appropriations	\$ 2,605,430	Includes municipal water/sewer, paving needs
Misc. Other Projects	\$ 1,550,000	History Museum (\$50,000); SCC Truck Driving (\$1,500,000)

Among the appropriations were funds for the construction of a companion storage facility for the Emergency Services facilities that will serve both the Emergency Services Department and the Sheriff’s Department. As the County has an established relationship with ADW Architects, who designed the EM facilities currently under construction, Mr. Causey requested that the Board authorize amending the County’s

current contract with them to include the design work for the new storage facility and authorize staff to execute the contract amendment if it is determined to be a viable option. Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to authorize execution of an amendment to the County's contract with ADW Architects to include the design of a new storage facility to serve the Emergency Services and Sheriff's departments, if found to be a viable option with State appropriation funding.

Report on Internal Salary Survey and Consideration of County Manager Recommendations Based Upon Survey Data Chairperson Lee called on County Manager Causey to discuss an internal salary survey and salary recommendations. Mr. Causey began by reviewing actions taken by the Board on October 18, 2021 including authorizing staff to complete an internal salary survey evaluation for all departments. He reviewed the data compiled by Human Resources Director Nancy Dillman from the target group - the eight counties contiguous to Sampson County - noting that the data reflected county positions by grade, but that there were positions for which comparable positions did not exist in the sample counties. He called the Board's attention to the 8.91% salary disparity for detention officers, noting that a recent 10% increase approved by the Board would offset it. He also noted that all employees would be receiving a bonus at the end of the week of 2.1% of their salary; thus some other disparities may be offset by the bonus pay. He noted that reclassifications and time in grade had not been considered given the focus of employee recruitment. Mr. Causey also reviewed the salary adjustment actions taken to date by the Board (see attached report) and presented general findings: (1) For the most part, County salaries are generally close to the average for the eight counties; (2) Once you move away from the detention officers, no general disparity that significantly separates the Sheriff's Office from the needs of other County departments was found (the County still has across the board needs); and (3) From a consideration of salary, any proposed % increase in salary should apply to all employees except for the detention officers who have already received an additional 10% increase (a total of nearly 17.5% per cent increase since July). The average increase for detention center workers in the current budget was 7.5%. Mr. Causey noted the costs that salary adjustments would pose, for instance a 5% increase in salaries, including fringes, would cost \$1,395,664 annually.

Mr. Causey presented the following recommendations:

1. That the comprehensive market study included in the proposal approved on October 18, 2021 be authorized to begin in July, 2022. That the County contract with Baker Tilly to complete a market survey update and analysis, job evaluation, preparation of updates to the compensation plan and preparation of a summary report at a cost of \$29,150, plus out-of-pocket expenses such as travel, copying, etc., not to exceed \$1,500, plus an additional project contingency of \$7,500.

2. That departments hit the pause button and wait until the market study is completed to resolve any outstanding questions/concerns, acknowledging that there will be questions.
3. That the detention officer 10% salary increase be made permanent. They are not included in any other proposed salary increases.
4. That the Board consider either a 5% salary increase for all employees or a 2% increase for all employees (as of January 1).
5. That the Board approve a change in how payroll is processed, shifting to pay salaries on the 15th of the month for the previous month. This means that during the month of implementation, there will be a six-week lag for employees receiving salary. Since many employees may have challenges with cash flow in the payment transition, the County would compensate employees for two weeks of employment in the middle of the month of implementation.

Mr. Causey closed by acknowledging additional budget impacts for the 2022 year that were already known. (A copy of the full proposal filed in Administration files.) Upon a motion made by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Vice Chairman Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 5% salary increase (effective January) with the condition that there would be no cost-of-living increases in July (until the market study was complete) plus the recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 5.

Selection of Interim Social Services Director and Consideration of Consulting Services for Assessment of Social Services Director Candidates County Manager Causey informed the Board that DSS Director Sarah Bradshaw will retire as of December 31, 2021. County Administration requested the use of the consulting firm Developmental Associates to assist in the assessment of candidates for the permanent DSS Director position. Administration also recommended the appointment of Deputy Director Lynn Fields to serve as Interim DSS Director until the assessment process is completed. Hearing no questions from the Board, Chairperson Lee moved that the Board appoint Lynn Fields as Interim DSS Director and authorize staff to enter a contract with Developmental Associates for assessment services, approving the budget amendment (shown below) budgeting funds of consultant services. Upon a second by Vice Chairman Kivett, the vote was unanimous.

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Finance		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11141210	544000	Contracted Services	22,000	
11999000	509700	Contingency		\$2,000.

Response to OSHA COVID 19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard Mr. Causey noted that despite the freeze on the enforcement of the federal vaccine mandate, the County must still develop a policy to be implemented if the legal

challenge is resolved in favor of the new OSHA COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) which will require employers to put a vaccine requirement in place or to test employees who are not vaccinated on a weekly basis, beginning on January 4, 2022. County Attorney Joel Starling explained that federal government's COVID-19 Action Plan included three separate, new vaccine mandates. Of the three, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) applies to businesses with more than 100 employees. It applies to private employers, he explained, but it will likely apply to North Carolina local government employers through the State Plan Agreement between OSHA and the State of North Carolina. He reviewed the draft plan, noting that it would not become effective until the State develops their policy. Mr. Starling cautioned that there is much unknown about if or when the legal challenges would be resolved and when the State would implement regulations. Upon a motion made by Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Kivett, the Board voted to adopt the draft policy, with the condition that it could be amended as the issue works its way through the courts. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Selection of Contractor for Design-Build Project to Construct Industrial Park Road and Adoption of the Resolution Authorizing Execution of Contract County Attorney Joel Starling informed the Board that in July, Sampson County was awarded \$1,281,995 in Industrial Development Grant funding to assist with the development of infrastructure within the Sampson Southeastern Business Center. To expeditiously expend the grant funding, EDC has recommended the design-build methodology for the construction of the roadway and water/sewer expansion. The County issued an RFQ, and based upon the qualifications of the respondents, it was recommended that the Board approve Barnhill Contracting for the road construction and water/sewer expansion. Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution which: (1) ratifies the criteria for selection of the design-build delivery method and demonstrates the Board's concurrence that design-build method is appropriate; and (2) authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with the most qualified respondent, Barnhill Contracting Company, at a price not to exceed \$1,281,995. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Authorization to Execute National Opioid Settlement Documents County Attorney Joel Starling presented a resolution authorizing the County's participation in the Distributor Settlement and copies of the Settlement Participation Forms. To participate in the settlements, local governments must execute the Settlement Participation Forms, Releases, and other required documents on or before January 2, 2022. Mr. Starling explained that when the County registered for the national settlement and designated an authorized signatory, Commissioner Clark H. Wooten was designated as the authorized signatory for Sampson County. Upon a motion by

Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing participating in the Distributor Settlement and Janssen Settlement and authorizing Commissioner Clark H. Wooten and/or the County Manager to execute Settlement Participation Forms and any other Election, Release, or other documents necessary to effectuate said Settlements. (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

Public Hearing – Naming of Private Roads Chairperson Sue Lee opened the public hearing and called on Assistant County Manager Susan Holder who presented recommendations from the Road Naming Committee. There being no public comment, Chairperson Lee closed the public hearing. Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to name the roads as recommended:

SR 1361	Water Treatment Road
SR 1362	Tower Road
PVT 1231 Lisbon	Hardware Lane

Appointments – Health Advisory Board Upon a motion by Chairperson Sue Lee and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Dr. Jeffrey Bell, Cassie Faircloth, and Charlotte Harrell to the Health Advisory Board.

Appointments – Advisory Board of Older Adults Upon a motion by Chairperson Sue Lee and a second by Vice Chairman Kivett the Board voted unanimously to appoint Barbara Faison (City of Clinton), Gracie Ellis (North Sampson), and Gail Mitchell (City of Clinton) to the Advisory Board of Older Adult Services.

Appointments – DSS Board Upon a motion by Chairperson Sue Lee and a second by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to appoint Eric Grubb to the DSS Board, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation Dave Richert.

**Item 5:                   Consent Agenda**

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a.     Approved the minutes of the November 1, 2021 meeting
- b.     Adopted a resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a lease for less than one year for county property (a portion of Sampson County Parcel Nos. 12-0265560-02 and 12-0192880-05) to Lynn S. Carr (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

- c. Authorized, by resolution, the sale of certain surplus property parcel number 16091208001 located on Garland Highway (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- d. Approved newly drawn 5- and 6-mile insurance district boundaries for the Clinton Fire District (no change to tax district or response district) (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- e. Awarded the bid for the purchase of pipe and supplies for the S. Eldridge Road project to the lowest bidder, Core & Main, LP, in the amount of \$89,834.64
- f. Approved amendments to the bylaws of the Ft. Bragg Regional Land Use Advisory Commission (RLUAC) as requested by the Commission (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- g. Authorized execution of the EMS Clinical Internship Agreement between Sampson County and Montgomery Community College (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- h. Approved delinquent veterans tax exclusion requests for George B. Howard, Daniel W. Carr, Johnny Patrick Millen, and Cory Jason Muzzy
- i. Approved the tax refunds and releases as submitted

#9748	East Coast Grills Inc	\$168.08
#9752	James Bass	\$324.69
#9749	Clinton Wheel Alignment Inc.	\$231.19
#9744	Matthew Thomas Young	\$334.06
#9737	Michele Kay Penvose	\$121.32
#9738	Peggy Matthews Matthews	\$172.93
#9742	Cameron Lee Tyndall	\$287.11
#9727	George A. Johnson	\$1,452.12
Tax Release	Canada-America Farms, Inc.	\$350.37
Tax Release	Jena Darlene Cline	\$502.01
Tax Release	B.J. Johnson	\$289.20
Tax Release	Christopher Alton Jordan	\$195.75
Tax Release	William Trevor Powell	\$376.07

- j. Approved budget amendments as submitted

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2558790	526200 Info/Case Assist – Dept Supplies	\$1,333.	
2258790	544000 Info/Case Assist – Contracted Services	\$2,000.	
<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2035879	403602 Info/Case Assist – Health Promotion	\$3,333.	



<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Library		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11761100	526200 Dept Supplies	\$4,770.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11036110	403625 Reimbursement for Scanners and Receipt Printers from NC Cardinal Grant	\$4,770.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Library		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11761100	544200 Cultural Programming	\$375.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11036110	408900 Grant Arts Council	\$375.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Health Department		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12551560	529900 Miscellaneous	\$500.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12535123	408401 Donation	\$500.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Airport		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11141250	544000 Contract Services	\$30,000.	
21941250	596020 Transfer to General Fund	\$15,000.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034125	403623 City of Clinton	\$15,000.	
11034125	409619 County Capital Reserve	\$15,000.	
21934125	409900 Fund Balance Approp	\$15,000.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Aging		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2558710	525600 ADHC – Dept Supplies	\$350.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2035871	408401 ADHC - Donations	\$350.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	Sheriff		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11243100	526201 Dept Supplies CD	\$12,000.	
11243100	526279 Dept Supplies Narc	\$17,800.	
11243100	539500 Training	\$17,200.	
11243100	526200 Dept Supplies	\$10,000.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>			
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034310	403631 Substance Abuse	\$57,000.	

## **Consent Agenda, Board of Health**

- k. Approved Health Department fee revisions as recommended by Health Advisory Board
- l. Approved revisions to the SCHD Advisory Committee Operating Procedures Policy (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- m. Approved revisions to the SCHD Advisory Committee Conflict of Interest Policy (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- n. Approved revisions to the SCHD Fiscal Policy (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- o. Authorized submission of an application for a United Way Grant in the amount of \$7,000 to support the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

### **Item 6: Consideration of Tax Appeals**

Upon a motion by Chairperson Lee and a second by Vice Chairman Kivett, the Board unanimously voted to forgive 50% of the penalties in the following tax appeal cases: Hog Heaven Farming, BDC Farming, and S&G Farms.

### **Item 7: Board Information (Board of Health Items)**

The following items were provided to the Board for information only:

- a. September 20, 2021 SCHD Advisory Committee Minutes
- b. SCHD Annual Report 2020-2021
- c. COVID-19 Update

### **Item 8: County Manager's Report**

County Manager Causey informed the Board that he would like to schedule a two-day planning session in February. These dates will be presented at the January 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting.

### **Item 9: Public Comment**

Ms. Danielle Koontz - 2057 Old Mintz Highway Ms. Koontz thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and stated that she has continued to volunteer to collect water from residents in Sampson County, working alongside scientists from UNC Chapel Hill and Appalachian State University. To date they have completed over 100 water sample tests and have residents who are continuing to request that they test their

water. Ms. Koontz stated that the results of the water tests are being finalized and offered to email a summary of the results to the Board. In the midst of the testing, residents in District 4 are continuing to have issues with their water supply. These residents have been using bottled water, are unable to wash white clothes in their water, and have complained about odorous and discolored water. Ms. Koontz added that some of these issues are due to the residents' proximity to hog and turkey farms as well as landfills and unofficial "dumping sites." Ms. Koontz requested that the Board not forget the residents in District 4 when they begin using the funds for water infrastructure that were allocated to the County by the EPA.

Reverend Jimmy Melvin - 2057 Old Mintz Highway Reverend Melvin stated that he lives in District 4 and is a pastor in the Delway community at Mt. Zion AME Zion Church. The water supply at his church was tested a year and a half ago. The nitrogen levels in the water have fluctuated, but recently exceeded safe levels. He stated that the Health Department left correspondence that individuals should not use the water to wash hands or consume, and that they had sixty days to correct this problem with their well. Reverend Melvin's church incurred a cost of \$4,000 while digging a deeper well in order to correct this issue. Reverend Melvin stated that he has continued to express a need for County water in his area. He is disappointed that while he has corrected the well issues at his church, the parishioners must deal with the same hardships when they return home. In closing, Reverend Melvin stated that he would like for the County and the residents of District 4 to work together in order to resolve these water issues.

**Item 10: Closed Session**

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board moved into Closed Session pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3): Attorney/Client Privilege. In Closed Session, County Attorney Joel Starling discussed the insurer's offer to settle a wrongful death claim. Upon a motion by Chairperson Lee and a second by Vice Chairman Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session. Upon a motion by Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County's insurer to make a settlement in the Anthony Chavis Estate Wrongful Death Claim in the amount of \$250,000, and to authorize the Chairperson and County Manager to execute any and all necessary settlement documents.

**Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Kivett and a second by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

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Sue Lee, Chairperson

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Susan J. Holder, Clerk to the Board