

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Jerol Kivett, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Thaddeus Godwin, Lethia Lee, and Allen McLamb.

Chairman Jerol Kivett called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Vice Chairperson Sue Lee who provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Vice Chair Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following changes:

- Added Item 1B - GFL Report

### **Item 1: Reports and Presentations**

NCDOT Update Chairman Kivett called upon Highway Maintenance Engineer Keith Jackson who introduced Daniel Jones, District/Resident Engineer for Sampson and Duplin Counties. Mr. Jackson provided an update on planned maintenance projects throughout the County and Mr. Jones gave a brief summarization of ongoing and completed construction projects.

GFL Report Chairman Kivett called upon Selin Hoboy and Bryan Wuester of GFL who provided information with the hope of improving communication and transparency within the community. Ms. Hoboy discussed a County-specific website with up-to-date information regarding special projects and community questions.

### **Item 2: Action Items**

Bid Award for T.O. 4&8 Water Main Extensions Chairman Kivett called upon Mark Turlington and David Ross to discuss the ongoing water main extension projects. Mr. Ross shared that bids for the T.O. 4&8 Water Main Extensions were received on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 2:00 pm. Fewer than three bids were received for the project, so the bids were not opened. As stated in G.S. 143-132, three bids are required for construction or repair contracts subject to the formal bidding procedures. A re-advertisement for bids was issued, which set the bid opening date to Thursday, September 28, 2022 at 2:00 pm. After declaring bidding closed, it was noted that five (5) bid proposals for the project were submitted. Five (5) bidders were present for the bid opening. Each of the five (5) bid proposals were then opened and read aloud. After the bid opening, Dewberry Engineers Inc. reviewed the bids received for this project and established that each bidder had submitted a responsive, responsible bid and that the apparent low, responsive, responsible bidder is Herring-Rivenbark. This project is being funded by the directly allocated State Capital and Infrastructure Fund (SCIF) and the total

funding available for system improvement type projects includes \$9,000,000. Mr. Ross then stated that Dewberry recommends that Sampson County award the contract for the T.O. 4&8 Water Main Extensions to Herring-Rivenbark, the apparent low, responsible, responsive bidder at a contract price of \$2,012,197.50. Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner McLamb, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid to Herring-Rivenbark as recommended by Dewberry.

Lead and Copper Service Line Resolution Mr. Ross informed the Board that to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule revisions released by the EPA, all community water systems are required to develop an initial inventory of all service line connections, both system-owned and customer-owned, by October 16, 2024. In order to meet these regulations, Sampson County will be performing an inventory assessment of the service lines in the public water system. The inventory development will include locating and mapping lead service lines using historical data recorded by Sampson County. This data will be tracked using the Sampson County GIS (geographic information system) and findings shared with the community. The County is seeking funding for this project through the NCDEQ State Revolving Fund. Upon a motion by Chairman Kivett and seconded by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a Resolution Authorizing the County to Seek Funding for the Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory Assessment Project through the NCDEQ State Revolving Fund. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

2024 Reappraisal Schedule of Values Chairman Kivett called upon Tax Administrator Jim Johnson who discussed the 2024 reappraisal of all real property. Mr. Johnson introduced Emmett Curl of Pearson's Appraisal Service who shared an informative presentation about revaluation. Mr. Curl also clarified that Sampson County is one of twenty-three counties in the state that the Department of Revenue has required to perform a revaluation. Mr. Johnson then shared with the Board that statutorily, a public hearing must be held regarding the schedule of values and proposed a hearing date of November 20, 2023. Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to hold the public hearing on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Board Room. Mr. Causey then added that in order to take advantage of the scheduled meeting, staff would like to present the Market Study following the public hearing. Mr. Causey also recommended that the Board hold a work session the following Monday, November 27, 2023, to discuss the information, ask any questions, and potentially approve the Market Study.

### **Item 3: Board Appointments**

Library Board of Trustees Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Chairman Kivett the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. La'Chandra C. Parker to fill a vacancy on the Library Board of Trustees. Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Ms. Belinda Best to the Library Board of Trustees.

**Item 4: Consent Agenda**

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner McLamb, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Approved the minutes of the September 25, 2023 and October 2, 2023 meetings (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- b. Adopted the 2024 County Government Holiday Schedule (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- c. Adopted the 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- d. Adopted the Title VI Nondiscrimination Plan for Sampson Area Transportation
- e. Adopted the 2023 System Safety Plan for Sampson Area Transportation
- f. Adopted the Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy for Sampson Area Transportation
- g. Authorized the acceptance of an Emergency Management Capacity Building Competitive Grant for FY 2023 and approved the associated budget amendment
- h. Authorized the acceptance of grant funds from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program and approved the associated budget amendment
- i. Approved the Clinton-Sampson Airport Rates and Charges Effective 11/1/2023 – 6/30/2024
- j. Adopted a Resolution Supporting Allocation of Contingency Funding for Repair of Jumping Run Road in the Ivanhoe Community of Sampson County (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- k. Authorized the County Manager to execute a contract between Sampson County Department of Social Services and Vanguard Professional Services
- l. Adopted a Proclamation Honoring and Celebrating the 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Keathern Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- m. Approved late disabled veterans tax exclusion requests for James Y. Becton, Jason A. Bogart, Nealy Warren, Jr., and Brandon L. Rheel

n. Approved tax refunds and releases as submitted

#10301	Jose Lino Rivera	\$238.74
#10291	Jeremy Ray Tyndall	\$101.94
#10289	Fred Clifton Warren	\$409.50
#10276	Jeremy Hook	\$414.00
#10284	Spencer Antwan Miles	\$196.95
#10288	Cathy Ann Stambaugh	\$141.36
#10285	Jeffrey Gainey, Joan Gainey	\$114.51
Tax Release	Glenda G. Presley	\$211.96
Tax Release	Leola Fleury Pope Boone	\$487.01
Tax Release	William Curtis Carr	\$299.94
Tax Release	Dishon Edward Allen	\$141.77
Tax Release	Antonio Wilfredo Gonzalez	\$122.20
Tax Release	Antonio Wilfredo Gonzalez	\$197.01
Tax Release	Sarah Rhodes	\$228.60
Tax Release	Lew Wilson	\$809.46
Tax Release	Tristan Patrick Roberts	\$201.55
Tax Release	Xtreme Wireless of NC Inc.	\$105.04
Tax Release	J&S Landscaping & Construction	\$301.40
Tax Release	David Ronald Job, Jr.	\$109.20
Tax Release	James Robert Fisher	\$878.27
Tax Release	Anthony Jay Lane	\$124.58
Tax Release	Wesley Dale Ackerman	\$348.61

o. Approved budget amendments as submitted

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		EMS		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11243300	554000	Capital Outlay Vehicles	\$16,124.	
<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034330	408406	Revenue	\$16,124.	
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		EMS		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11243300	554000	Capital Outlay Vehicles	\$95,534.	
11243300	526200	Departmental Supplies	\$12,000.	
<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034330	408406	Revenue	\$107,534.	

**EXPENDITURE**

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Fire Districts</u>	<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23243410	581010	Roseboro (Coharie) Fire Dept	\$10,722.	
23243410	581011	Harrells Fire Dept (Franklin)	\$15,405.	
23243410	581012	Godwin-Falcon Fire Dept	\$11,208.	
23243410	581013	Halls Fire Dept	\$13,881.	
23243410	581014	Herring Fire Dept	\$20,487.	
23243410	581015	Salemburg (Honeycutt) Fire Dept	\$14,520.	
23243410	581016	Newton Grove Fire Dept	\$7,197.	
23243410	581017	Piney Grove Fire Dept	\$11,519.	
23243410	581018	Plain View Fire Dept	\$42,513.	
23243410	581019	Spivey's Corner Fire Dept	\$14,992.	
23243410	581020	Turkey Fire Dept	\$2,412.	
23243410	581021	Vanns Fire Dept	\$9,357.	
23243410	581022	Clinton Fire Dept	\$27,510.	
23243410	581023	Clement Fire Dept	\$21,383.	
23243410	581024	Autryville Fire Dept	\$15,939.	
23243410	581025	Garland Fire Dept	\$5,522.	
23243410	581026	Taylor's Bridge Fire Dept	\$31,754.	
23243410	581029	Jordans Chapel Fire Dept	\$4,444.	
23243410	581030	Smith Chapel Fire District	\$1,671.	

**REVENUE**

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23043410	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$10,722.
23043411	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$15,405.
23043412	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$11,208.
23043413	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$13,881.
23043414	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$20,487.
23043415	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$14,520.
23043416	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$7,197.
23043417	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$11,519.
23043418	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$42,513.
23043419	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$14,992.
23043420	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$2,412.
23043421	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$9,357.
23043422	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$27,510.
23043423	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$21,383.
23043424	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$15,939.
23043425	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$5,522.
23043426	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$31,754.
23043429	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$4,444.
23043430	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$1,671.

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		Health		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12661240	544000	Contract Services	\$13,475.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12535124	404000	State Assistance	\$13,475.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		JCPC		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
5558310	581000	Transfer to State Agency	\$7,212.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
5435831	409900	Fund Balance Approp Admin	\$353.	
5435831	409902	Fund Balance Approp Restitution	\$2,484.	
5435831	409903	Fund Balance Approp Youth Inspire	\$2,975.	
5435831	409905	Fund Balance Approp Psychological	\$1,400.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		Various Departments		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11141340	544000	Contract Services	\$18,000.	
11141210	544000	Contract Services	\$40,000.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11039999	409800	Fund Balance Approp Encumbrances	\$58,000.	

<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		Sheriff		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11243100	512200	Overtime Supplies	\$17,433.	
11243100	518100	FICA	\$1,081.	
11243200	518120	Medicare – FICA	\$253.	
11233100	518278	Law Enforcement Retirement	\$2,448.	
11243200	518900	401K Supplemental Retirement	\$872.	

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034310	402603	Federal Asset Funds (Narc)	\$22,087.	

**Item 5: Board Information**

The Board received the following for information only:

- a. Hwy 421 Rest Area Press Release

**Item 6: County Manager’s Report**

Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who reminded the Board that the Open House for the new Emergency Services building will be on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

## Item 7: Public Comment Period

Following a brief overview of Public Comment Policies and Procedures by Clerk to the Board Stephanie Shannon, Chairman Kivett reviewed standards of conduct and decorum and then opened the floor for public comments. The following were received:

Ann Knowles, 618 Honrine Road, Clinton, NC – “Good evening. My reason for speaking today is to invite you to the Veterans Affairs that we have our program, our Veterans program on, this time it’s not on the 11<sup>th</sup> for the first time in many years because Star Telephone has the Civic Center, so on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00, I invite each of you and all of our audience to come and celebrate Veterans Day with us. It’s a day that we recognize veterans. We honor veterans. We do it every day, but we especially do it on November 11<sup>th</sup> or this year 12<sup>th</sup>. So, come have a program with us and we will give you refreshments afterwards. We look forward to seeing all of you.”

Glenn Faison, 7161 Old Warsaw Road, Turkey, NC – “Good evening. Board of Commissioners, I’m honored to be before you tonight and thank you. I promise I won’t take up more than about 180 seconds of your time. I come before you tonight, my sister, Elaine Hunt, does that name ring a bell? If it don’t ring a bell you haven’t been paying attention. Elaine Hunt has come diligently before you for almost a year. We grew up in Turkey. Can the people that came with me tonight just stand please? We grew up in Turkey and I’m of age. I’ve been in Turkey all my life. My water situation has been the same all my life. My sister has been coming and she brings samples of water for what we need to do, and I understand how this thing works and I understand that your job is very hard. Every month I sit up there in the same section for another reason, but I understand decisions are hard. I would ask you to go the extra mile. Quit saying its impossible and start saying its probable. My life’s work has been about leveling the playing field. Everything I’ve done in my professional life people have said, ‘you’re not going to do it, it’s not going to work’ but I’ve proven them wrong. With corporations and whatnot. So, my point is I know funding is hard to get but I know that it’s not impossible. I spoke to my good friend Dr. William Barber today, some of you may know who he is. He said, ‘Faison, you got to get their attention.’ And if bringing more people here...I’ll pack the place out. I’m a Missionary Baptist from Turkey. We’ll pack it out. My church will come pack it out. But I don’t think that’s what it would take. I think it will take someone collected on this Board deciding that you want to fight for us. I know at public comments you come, you sit, you smile, the people come speak, you thank us for coming and you go on about your business. When I go home, I would love to be able to turn on my faucet and get a cold glass of water. I haven’t been able to do that in about 30, 40 years. Everybody on my road can’t afford to buy water, so can you imagine that? So, tonight, again, as my sister has come over and over again, we come to appeal. Just step it up. Maybe you as the Board, not your staff, you as the Board should seek people in Raleigh. Seek people in D.C. because its 2023 and it’s a shame that I’ve been in Turkey all my life and every time I turn on the faucet my water is the same that it’s always been. Wouldn’t you agree? I know you can’t answer questions, but you can nod your head. Thank you.”

Anthony Monds, 6248 Autry Mill Road, Godwin, NC – “Good evening. I’m a combat war veteran of the United States Marine Corps. I wasn’t just there, I was on the front lines fighting, so I thank you veterans for what you have done. My reason for being here this evening is, I’ve

been staying in Godwin, Sampson County part of Godwin, for approximately seventeen years and over the last three years I've been having issues with my neighbor playing loud music. Any veteran who's been in combat, who's been bombed, understands where I'm coming from, and so I've gotten the police involved. I know there's a County ordinance and my purpose in coming before you this evening is to submit to you that prayerfully that you all will not only take notice of your ordinance that you have, maybe it needs to be revised because one of the things that I keep hearing from the County Sheriff's Deputies when they come out there is that they can't do anything. So, I spoke to the Sheriff prior to this evening. He and I have been conversing with one another, so prayerfully he can do something, but maybe you all as County Commissioners can take a look because any veterans knows that the bass from the music can set your post-traumatic stress off. And if anybody don't know what post-traumatic stress is, anybody that's been in combat, which I was, I was bombed four nights the first night in country so I know what that's like. You can't control the thunderstorms that bother you, you may can't control the fireworks that bother you, but you can do something about my neighbor and his bass. So I ask and solicit you to take a look at your ordinance, if it needs to be revised please revise it and do something about it because I don't want to have to be on the news for other reasons and so I'm asking you to do something. I'm soliciting you to do something. You have the power and the authority to do something, so please do something. Thank you."

After the public comments were concluded, Commissioner McLamb offered the following statement: "Can I say something before we go into Closed Session? It won't take me but just a second but it's something that has been on my heart and me and you have talked about it a little bit and I just want to bring it up, and I've seen some of it tonight. About some of the paperwork that we've got and our communications to these guys and things that have gone on. I just want to see this Board, Mr. Causey's office, and anyone else, we need to address the communications better than I think we are. I've talked about it with several. I think that with my business alone communication is a big thing. If I lose communications, I'll lose business and I think that spans through everyone. So, I want to employ, ask, that we look at a little bit stronger communications between the Chair and Co-Chair and our Commissioners and Mr. Causey to where I feel informed. I've had a situation a couple times that when someone come up to me and you guys have been meeting and that's fine, I like it. I appreciate what you're doing but when someone comes up and says, 'well we saw so-and-so, oh you already knew that.' That bothers me to be honest. I mean, when someone else has had a meeting with someone and they say well you knew that and I saw hmm, ok and I nod and I kind of walk away it kind of, and it just takes a little bit of communication that we share with each other. Can we not email with no problem? I know we have to be careful about our quorum and when we form those but I mean emails and stuff are traceable and they're seen. I guess that's my rant that I've seen because I promised my district, District 1, which is in the Godwin area, that I would make sure the communications was up and running to where they were informed and it makes me feel bad that sometimes I can't inform my own people and I get kind of blindsided. So, I'm asking that we create a little bit better information dialogue between us and everyone. The pay study has come in and we know but I would have loved to have known that before I got here, honestly. There's a few other things that I'd love to know that's going on. I just want it to be open and we're all involved because I think there's some people up here that have a lot of good ideas and together we can make things work great for this County and that's what I want to see happen. That's the part that I want to do and that's what I told people on my end of the County that I was going to do, so I'm asking that we support each other, that we open a line of



communication, that is up front, and we're all talking and we just know what's going on. Thank you. I thank you for giving me that time."

**Item 8: Closed Session - G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)&(a)(3)**

Upon a motion by Commissioner McLamb and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Closed Session. Upon a motion by Chairman Kivett and seconded by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session.

**Recess to Reconvene**

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, the Board voted unanimously to Recess to Reconvene on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Board Room, 406 County Complex Road, Clinton, NC.

/signed copy on file in Clerk's Office

R. Jerol Kivett, Chairman

/signed copy on file in Clerk's Office

Stephanie P. Shannon, Clerk to the Board