

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners reconvened at 4:00 p.m. on December 17, 2019 in the Conference Room of the County Administration Building, 406 County Complex Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Clark Wooten, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Thaddeus Godwin, Jerol Kivett, and Harry Parker.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order. Upon a motion by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the provided agenda was amended to add a Closed Session.

Item 1: Consideration of Repair/Reinstall of Supplemental Sign Honoring Miss NC

County Manager Ed Causey requested that the Board consider approval of a budget amendment and resolution that will authorize the repair and re-installation of the previously authorized signage honoring the 2015 Miss North Carolina. The sign was knocked down and damaged in a car accident. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted to approve the budget amendment presented (\$1,300 cost) and adopt the resolution regarding the sign repair/reinstallation with special attention to its last paragraph which states that "given that signs of this nature no longer meet the NCDOT statewide sign practices and given that there are opportunities for inequities in the consideration of future requests for worthy citizens, the Board suspends all authorizations for installation of such supplemental signage". (Copy of resolution filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)

Item 2: Consideration of Lease for Agricultural Tract

Assistant County Manager Susan Holder explained that since the late 1990s, the County has leased the unused portion of the tract of land on which the Turkey recycling/container site is located to Michael and Cathy Cottle for farming purposes. Mr. Cottle has requested to continue this lease again next year, but upon review, staff realized the lease needed to be updated with current language regarding such agriculture leases and adjust the lease amount to market rate. The revised lease was presented for Board approval at a rate of \$432. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board approved the lease document. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)

Item 3: EMS Facilities Presentation

County Manager Ed Causey, Assistant County Manager Susan Holder, and Telecommunications Manager Melinda McClenny reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the EMS Facilities project, explaining anticipated grant sources, project partners, anticipated design and construction specific to 911 facilities, and the critical timeline necessitated by the grant dollars already received from the State and the deadlines for additional grant applications. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Staff requested Board approval of a contract with consultant Mission Critical Partners, authorization to receive and review architectural/engineering bids and authorization for the Public Works Director to begin site development work. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Mission Critical contract. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Upon a motion by Commissioner Kivett and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to authorize staff to review bids and a potential contract for architectural services (with bid award to come to the Board in January). Upon a motion by Chairman Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Public Works Director to begin site surveys and Phase I environmental studies on the project site.

Closed Session - GS 143-318.11 (a)(6) Consultation with Attorney

Upon a motion made by Chairman Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Kivett, the Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session pursuant to GS 143-318.11 (a) (3). In Closed Session, County Attorney Joel Starling discussed privileged and confidential information related the opioid litigation. Upon a motion made by Chairman Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session. No action was taken.

Report

Finance Officer David Clack provided an impromptu report that the annual audit had finally been received, and it was a very positive audit with no deficiencies and with increases in tax collection and to fund balance. The full audit report will be made at the January 6, 2020 meeting.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn.