

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 5, 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. Vice Chairperson Lee called upon Commissioner Lethia Lee who provided the invocation. Vice Chairperson Sue Lee then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

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

- Added Item 4B – Jury Commission Appointment

Item 1: Recognition of Miss North Carolina and Miss North Carolina’s Outstanding Teen Contestants

Chairman Kivett called upon Wayne Edwards, Executive Director of the Miss Spivey’s Corner Pageant. Mr. Edwards provided a brief history of the Miss America Organization and the Miss Spivey’s Corner Pageant. The Board then heard presentations from Miss Spivey’s Corner Haleigh Jo Baker, Miss Spivey’s Corner’s Outstanding Teen Madison McVey, Miss Newton Grove’s Outstanding Teen Carly Ramsey, and Miss Sampson County’s Outstanding Teen AbbiKate Daughtry regarding their personal social impact initiatives. The ladies took advantage of a photo opportunity with the Board and thanked them for the opportunity to speak.

Item 2: Public Hearing – Proposed Budget for FY 23-24 and Proposed Economic Development Expenditures in the 2023-2024 Budget

Chairman Kivett opened a public hearing for the Proposed Budget for FY 23-24 and opened the floor for public comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing. The following comment was received via email regarding the Proposed Budget for FY 23-24:

“I fully support the increase in wages for Sampson County employees and Sheriff Officers. I commend you on putting a priority on safety. What I do not support is the means in which the Solid Waste fees will be implemented for residents. A single person with 1 bag of kitchen waste should not be charged the same rate as a family of 7 with multiple bags per week. In 2014-2017 (and perhaps they still do), Onslow County used a system where residents paid per bag. That was fair and equitable, and I was happy to pay it. However, what you are proposing is not. The fee of \$80/year for all citizens, regardless of trash generated or disposed of, is not equal for your citizens. I have seen numerous residents come to the sites with truck beds full of trash bags at Pumpkintown Road. The idea that they are going to be charged the same rate, seems wrong. Please note that I'm not opposed to a fee, just the means by which it would be implemented. I also disapprove of putting a yearly sticker on my vehicle for Solid Waste

services. It will add up to a pile of unsightly stickers, which is unnecessary. If you want to do a mirror hanging piece, I would support that means of access. Thank you for your time.
Terri Parsons”

Chairman Kivett opened a public hearing for the Proposed Economic Development Expenditures in the FY 23-24 Budget and opened the floor for comments. The following was received:

Larry Sutton, 4761 Bearskin Road, Clinton, NC 28328 - “Pertaining to the budget and the economic development section, the County Manager made reference to that in the budget when he referenced that he was setting the table for the future or preparing for the future dinner party for the County and I really admire that analogy that you made about the future budget and the economic part of it as well. My concerns are that we be very mindful as we move toward the betterment here in the County for the future. It’s a very noble goal and we should all support the efforts to develop our County economically as we can for the future. My concerns are that we make sure that the table is being set for everybody. We need to be very careful and make sure we are being inclusive with the budget of the economy and being equitable as well and also diverse. The future economic standing anywhere, I believe, has to consider those three components. Again, diversity, equity, and inclusion. That to me speaks for the values that we as a society ought to have and ought to possess and ought to want to share. We are a community where everyone needs to be included, there needs to be equity, and there needs to be diversity when it comes to the future economic standing in our County. So, I applaud County Manager Causey’s efforts at growing the economy for the future. And we should all applaud him for his efforts as well and make sure that it is one that is diverse, inclusive, and equitable for all of the folks who live in Sampson County. Thank you, sir.”

Chairman Kivett then asked if there were any more comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing. The Board then scheduled to hold the Budget Work Session on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administrative Board Room.

Item 3: Action Items

Clinton-Sampson Rescue/EMS Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who reviewed information about Clinton-Sampson Rescue and EMS’s response to calls for service and membership roster. The squad has not fulfilled requirements in its contract and has not attempted to improve its level of service. Due to these operational issues, Emergency Management staff has recommended that the County terminate its contract with Clinton-Sampson Rescue and EMS and discontinue funding. Upon a motion by Chairman Kivett and seconded by Commissioner McLamb, the Board voted unanimously to terminate the contract between Sampson County and Clinton-Sampson Rescue and EMS and discontinue funding as recommended.

Roseboro Rescue Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who asked County Attorney Joel Starling to review information regarding the Roseboro Rescue Squad. Mr. Starling informed the Board that the County recently received a letter stating that the Roseboro Rescue Squad would be discontinuing its EMS component. The County negotiated with the squad on a contract that would cover the rescue and dive rescue services that will continue

being provided. Mr. Starling also stated that the County has been using the Roseboro Rescue Squad's facility for some time without a written lease agreement. A lease agreement for this facility has been prepared and submitted for approval. Upon a motion by Vice Chair Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute on behalf of Sampson County a Rescue Services Contract and Lease Agreement with Roseboro Rescue and EMS.

Item 4: Board Appointments

Advisory Board of Older Adult Services Upon a motion by Vice Chair Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Carolyn Jernigan, Judith Barnes, Thylistine Vann, Mac Maxwell, and Martin Mortensen to the Advisory Board of Older Adult Services.

Jury Commission Upon a motion by Vice Chair Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mary Tew to the Jury Commission.

Item 5: Consent Agenda

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

(As Board of Commissioners)

- a. Approved the minutes of the May 1, 2023 and May 22, 2023 meetings (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book____, Pages ____)
- b. Approved a request for a waiver of the department head residency requirement for Information Technology Director Chris Rayner
- c. Approved a request for a waiver of the department head residency requirement for Elections Director Niya Rayner
- d. Authorized a revision of the 2022-2023 Home and Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults
- e. Authorized a lease between Sampson County and the State of North Carolina on behalf of the Department of Public Safety, Division of National Guard, Tarheel Challenge Academy
- f. Approved the FY 2023-2024 County Funding Plan and Certification for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- g. Declared as surplus and authorize transfer of service weapon (Sig Sauer 9mm pistol, serial number 47A066233) to retiring officer Vernon Huffman
- h. Approved the budget amendments as submitted

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Coroner		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
1199000	509700	Contingency		\$25,000.
11243600	519900	Other Professional Services	\$25,000.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Aging		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2558800	526200	Department Supplies	\$500.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2558800	408401	Donations	\$500.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Cooperative Extension		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11449500	526200	Department Supplies	\$1,161.	
11449500	529900	Misc Expenses	\$400.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034950	408900	Misc Revenue	\$1,561.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Aging		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2558670	526200	Home Repairs - Department Supplies	\$644.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2035867	408403	Home Repairs – Fan Project	\$644.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Library		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11761100	544200	Cultural Programs	\$98.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11036110	408401	Donations	\$98.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		ESFR 20 Grant Project		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
29549480	519049	Administration	\$20,000.	
29549480	592004	Housing Rehabilitation	\$82,265.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
29034948	403614	Grant Housing Finance	\$102,265.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Social Services		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
		Eastpointe County Initiative Grant	\$50,000.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
		Eastpointe County Initiative Grant	\$50,000.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
75243100	512600	Separation Allowance	\$26,352.	
75243100	518100	FICA	\$1,580.	
75246100	518120	Medicare FICA	\$370.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
75034310	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$28,302.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Finance		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
43981570	555000	Capital Outlay - Other	\$250,000.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
43038152	403684	State SCIF Grant 22-23	\$250,000.	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		Sheriff		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11243100	555000	Capital Outlay – Other Equipment	\$23,548.	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034310	403631	State Substance Abuse Tax	\$23,548.	

Clinton City Schools Budget Amendment 1 – Capital Outlay
Clinton City Schools Budget Amendment 1 – Other Special Revenue
Clinton City Schools Budget Amendment 1 – Federal
Clinton City Schools Budget Amendment 3 – State
Clinton City Schools Budget Amendment 1 - Local

i. Approved the tax refunds and releases as submitted

#10181	Michael Lewis	\$198.94
#10179	Leslie Autry	\$228.48
#10176	Marion Edgar Stringfellow Jr.	\$138.72
#10162	Prestage Farms	\$120.49
#10161	Prestage Farms Inc.	\$595.62
#10153	M. Douglas McLamb	\$381.24
#10166	Leslie Ray Wainscott	\$190.41
#10168	Jamie Riner Pope	\$249.40
#10175	Bolivar Gutierrez	\$174.48
#10158	Patricia F. Green Rev Trust	\$400.16
#10169	Crystal Nichole Martin	\$214.25
#10167	J.D. Brewington	\$781.60
Tax Release	Jose Javier Pacheco Cardona	\$261.75
Tax Release	Nicholas Gerard St. Louis Jr.	\$339.04
Tax Release	William Jessop Horne III	\$160.07
Tax Release	Christy Bass	\$632.24
Tax Release	Nicholas Dewitt Holloman	\$220.74

(As Board of Health)

- j. Approve Sampson County Health Department Fees/CPT Code Update

Item 6: Board Information

The Board received the following items for information only

- a. March 20, 2023 – SCHD Health Advisory Committee Minutes
- b. 2022 SOTCH Report
- c. 2023 NC Child Health Report
- d. Public Health Emergency Update

Item 7: County Manager’s Report

Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who acknowledged new Public Works Director Mark Turlington. Mr. Causey stated that Mr. Turlington has been employed by the County for ten years and has served as the Interim Public Works Director for the past several months. He then called on Mr. Turlington who thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as the Public Works Director.

Item 8: 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:

Elaine Hunt, 7171 Old Warsaw Road, Turkey, NC – “Good evening. I heard in your prayer that you said, ‘guide you in your decisions to do what is right’ and I heard the others say, ‘amen”. And so I’m hoping tonight you will strive to do what is right concerning the request I’m bringing forth again tonight, which is our need for County water because of the brown water that we now have. We’re coming to you because you are the overseers of Sampson County and there’s problems and concerns. Now, I know, and I’ve been looking into investigating that there are grants out there I’m told through agencies such as the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and I’ve also been told that you have more accessibility to these grants and grant information than I am. Therefore, I am coming to ask if you all will look into grants or the information so that we on Old Warsaw Road can have clean water, good drinking water, water so we can wash our clothes like you wash your clothes. Water is essential to life and it’s a necessity, it’s not something that we just wanting to be wanting. We need clean water and we’re asking for consideration from you to help us get clean water; help us to get County water. Thank you.”

Jerome Warren, 1949 Big Piney Grove Road, Clinton, NC - "Good evening. I come this evening with two things on my mind and first of all thank you for your service as we as veterans receive many times as we walk around in the city and meet people. Number one is these garbage trucks that's running up and down the road. These things are so dirty. They pick up trash and garbage from everywhere that's been sitting for God knows how long and they go to the dump, they dump it, they come back out. This trash has sat there and has fermented and done some of everything else to grow bacteria and they're running down the road and we driving behind it or either passing by and we're having to breathe this air in. I refuse to ride behind one and I refuse to pull up beside one at the stop light. Can't these things be washed? The hog trucks have to be washed, why we can't wash the garbage truck, and then they'll look presentable as they're going down the road and perhaps spare us of some germs. Second issue is our Veteran's Park. We have veterans here tonight and we're coming and asking that the park remain where it is because to us it's in the right place. It's where it can be seen, it's not tucked away somewhere in a corner, and we pray that our children and our grandchildren, as the bricks continue to grow out there with different veterans, our names on them, that one day they will pass by and say, 'Mamaw or Papaw, what is that?' and we'll say, 'That's the Veteran's Park that perhaps your grandmother or grandfather, your father, your uncle, some of your relatives have served, their name is out there.'" They'll want to walk out there and look at that, but if it's tucked somewhere that's not visible then they may not develop that patriotism and pride that we have as veterans. As one veteran said earlier, 'We don't ask for much but much has been asked of us.' And, so we ask this evening that if you would, please give us strong consideration for leaving our Veteran's Park where it is. Thank you."

Whitney Parker, 7745 Roseboro Highway, Roseboro, NC - "Good evening. Just a quick public service announcement in reference to the toxic dump in Sampson County. Just imagine happy families, clean water, good soil, clean air. Fast forward thirty years, strangers make, I guess ties or agreements with other strangers. Fast forward to the present day. Gray skies, contaminated soil, water is terrible, you can't sleep, you can't even breathe. I just want to say there's an elephant in the room that none of us can avoid and something needs to be done. Thank you so much."

Larry Sutton, 4761 Bearskin Road, Clinton, NC 28328 - "I have several items tonight just to comment on as they are public matters. The first one is I would like to invite Mr. Chairman, County Manager, and the entire staff and Board Members to our upcoming Juneteenth celebration on Monday, June 19th. The City of Clinton is sponsoring their first ever Juneteenth celebration and I have the distinct pleasure of being one of the two speakers for Juneteenth. So, you are invited to come out and be a part of that. It will begin at 11:00 Monday morning and the place is City Market on Lisbon Street in Downtown Clinton. Number two is I share Ms. Hunt's concerns about clean water in her area where she resides and I also share the comments made by Mr. Warren. The Veteran's Park here in Clinton is an established park that veterans and their supporters have come to admire and enjoy and I support the Veteran's Council's efforts to maintain the location of that park out there on Northeast Boulevard here in Clinton. Also, I personally share Mr. Whitney Parker's concerns about the Snow Hill Landfill because I knew his parents and they both lived on Marion Amos Road that runs in the heart of the Snow Hill Landfill, and his parents are no longer with him or with us and I consider their death, in part, due to the toxic environment they lived in for decades. For decades. In closing, the Gen-

Zers and the Millennials will someday have some words to say about the Snow Hill park as well. Thank you very much.”

Jimmy Melvin, 2057 Old Mintz Highway, Roseboro, NC – “This is just, I guess, a thank you for consideration. The talk has been County water but I see that from April there’s been the application of a grant in the area of Claudes Drag, Old Mintz Highway, all the way down to Mintz so we are hoping that that, we are encouraging you to dot all of the i’s and cross all of the t’s to make sure that we have the opportunity for that to come to fruition and progressing. Our area is really growing, and we will be back the next time with an appeal to slow the speed limit down in that community because it’s a rapid fire drag strip for the Sheriff’s Deputies and everything else that comes through there trying to keep a check on Roseboro and Garland along with the trucks, really. So, we’ll be coming back next time. We’re hoping to get with DOT and present something that we can appeal for to get that speed limit slowed down. Plus, we have the school right down in the curve at Mintz and it’s in a curve so that’s a difficult spot. But I’m hoping that this grant that you’re applying for and the other grants that you’re applying for in case that one don’t work and the one you’re applying for that one don’t work it all comes to fruition. And, as I leave, the opportunity for the company to apply to add a methane plant to the landfill, and we’re going to have a discussion on the 27th at the Town Hall, but it seems to be a County issue, but it’s going to be the Town Hall, but there’s an application that we were notified of just the end of May and now the 27th of June we’ll have to discuss whether we’re going to approve or grant permit for a methane that’s going to amp the RPMs of the odor and the contamination of the air in our entire area, so I hope you consider that because you did a good prayer. I heard it when you came up that you want to do what’s right. Let’s don’t get in trouble with the man that runs everything. Thank you.”

Edward Gilliam, 817 W. Second Street, Garland, NC – “I just want to say, well, good evening first. I just really want to say I thank the Board, I thank the opportunity with Mr. Turlington, we had a meeting..” (Video streaming of the meeting was stopped prematurely. Mr. Gilliam expressed his thanks for everyone who is working together on the Ivanhoe Water Project.)

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 at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023 in the Administrative Board Room, 406 County Complex Road, Clinton, NC 28328.

/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