

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, 2024, 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. Commissioner Godwin provided the invocation and Vice Chairperson Sue Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

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

- Added a Presentation by Commissioner Godwin before Item 1

Presentation:

Commissioner Godwin called upon Representative Larry M. Bell who provided remarks about the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Representative Bell went on to praise Glenn Faison, who has been a champion for his community and Sampson County as a whole. Representative Bell then called upon Mr. Faison and presented him with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award. Mr. Faison made remarks about his work and thanked the Board, Representative Bell, and his family for their support.

Item 1: Public Hearing - Naming of Private Road

Chairman Kivett opened a public hearing and called upon GIS Coordinator Jessie Matthews who informed the Board that the Road Naming Committee met and has recommended that PVT 1141-3092 be named Lizzie Way Lane. Chairman Kivett opened the floor for public comments and hearing none closed the public hearing. Upon a motion by Chairman Kivett and seconded by Commissioner McLamb the Board voted unanimously to name the private road as recommended by the Road Naming Committee.

Item 2: Action Items and Updates

Update on Sale of County Property and Upset Bid Process Chairman Kivett called upon Finance Director David Clack who shared that bids were opened on July 2, 2024 and the highest bid was currently \$276,100. Staff has advertised the new qualifying minimum bid of \$289,955 with a bid opening date of July 16, 2024.

Designation of Voting Delegate for NCACC Annual Conference Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who explained that the Board needed to select a voting

member to represent them at the NCACC Annual Conference. This year's conference will be held in Forsyth County on August 8-10, 2024. Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to designate Chairman Jerol Kivett as this year's voting delegate.

Termination of Contract with Roseboro Rescue & EMS Chairman Kivett called upon County Manager Ed Causey who stated that representatives of Roseboro Rescue & EMS, Inc. have informed Sampson County that they will no longer furnish to the County the light rescue services described in the Rescue Services Contract between Roseboro Rescue and the County, entered into effective June 1, 2023. These light rescue services comprise a substantial majority of the services to be furnished by Roseboro Rescue under the terms of the Contract, and Roseboro Rescue's failure to furnish these services constitutes a material breach of the terms of the Contract which entitles the County to terminate the Contract with immediate effect. Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lethia Lee the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution instructing the County Manager to give notice of termination of the Resue Services Contract, with said terminations to become effective immediately. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Discussion of Rescue Plans for the Town of Roseboro County Manager Ed Causey continued the discussion of Rescue Services in the Roseboro Community. He stated that the Board previously allocated \$200,000 for the renovation of the Roseboro Rescue Squad building on the condition the property be transferred to the County. The rescue organization declined that arrangement and decided that they would make needed improvements. County staff has had informal talks with the Town of Roseboro who is planning to build a new fire department on Business Hwy. 24. They have expressed interest in our constructing a building on their site as the total site includes about 4 acres. A price has not been discussed; however, we believe that the town would work with us on a very equitable arrangement. Staff is proposing a very basic metal building that would include two bays and accommodation for four people. There is currently only one unit for the Roseboro community, but the demand for services is expected to grow. Likewise, space is needed that will accommodate two rescue units for full-time service at some time in the future. We anticipate a building of approximately 2,500 square feet to accommodate the two bays and the living quarters for up to 4 people. Even though a very modest building is planned, we would work with the town to ensure that our building, from a visual standpoint, is as compatible as possible. Upon a motion by Commissioner Godwin and seconded by Commissioner Lethia Lee the Board voted unanimously to allow County staff to further develop the project with an expected total cost of no more than \$500,000, redesignate the previously approved \$200,000 to this project, and determine that any additional monies needed come from remaining authorizations from similar capital projects with the understanding that any final recommendation would be presented to the Board for approval.

Tax Settlement and Charge to Tax Collector Chairman Kivett called upon Tax Administrator Jim Johnson who provided tax settlement information for the previous fiscal year. Upon a motion by Commissioner McLamb and seconded by Commissioner Lethia Lee, the Board voted unanimously to accept the settlement and charge Jim Johnson with the collection of taxes for FY 2024-2025. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Item 3: Board Appointments

Fort Liberty RLUAC Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Sue Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin the Board voted unanimously to appoint Milton David Hall to serve on the Fort Liberty Regional Land Use Advisory Commission.

Item 4: Consent Agenda

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

- a. Approved the minutes of the May 29, 2024, June 3, 2024, June 10, 2024, June 13, 2024, and June 25, 2024 meetings (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)
- b. Authorize the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between Sampson County and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- c. Approve a Program Income Policy related to the expenditure of ARPA Funds
- d. Approve a Property Management Policy related to the expenditure of ARPA Funds
- e. Authorize the execution of an Agreement for Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection between Sampson County and GFL Environmental (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)
- f. Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Kroger Opioid Settlement and Approving the Second Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds and authorize the County Manager to execute all documents necessary to enter into settlement agreements and provide such documents to the Implementation Administrator (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book ____, Page ____.)
- g. Authorize the execution of a Contract for School Nurse Services between the Sampson County Health Department and Clinton City Schools
- h. Authorize the execution of applications for lottery funds to reimburse the County for debt payments on school buildings
- i. Approved tax refunds and releases as submitted
- j. Approved budget amendments as submitted

Item 5: County Manager's Report

No report given.

Item 6: Public Comment Period

Chairman Kivett called upon Clerk to the Board Stephanie Shannon who received three public comments via email. Ms. Shannon read the following into the public record:

Dewayne West, 132 West Grove Street, Newton Grove, NC - "I would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for passing a responsible budget that shows sensitivity to the inflation that is severely impacting Sampson County taxpayers. While I understand that the cost of providing government services has gone up, we citizens are also experiencing those same increases. The board is to be commended for also recognizing the need to spend a year looking at all of the departments and funding partners to determine where savings can be made. There never seems to be enough revenue to meet departmental needs, but It appears that you have made every effort to be fair across the board with all groups that receive funding through the county."

Allie Ray McCullen, 108 Sycamore Street, Clinton, NC - "Sampson County Board of Commissioners, I wish to thank the entire Board of Commissioners on the passing of a budget that reflects the inflation impacting our Sampson County taxpayers. Times are hard and you folks had a most difficult task considering the current economy. Also, the board must consider all mandates handed down by the Federal government. I appreciate your efforts to show fairness to all departments receiving county funding. Thank each of you for the job you are doing."

Hugh Carr, 517A Warsaw Road, Clinton, NC - "Just a quick note to express my appreciation to the Commissioners and County staff for their efforts to remain revenue neutral with the current budget and recent valuations. Sampson County has many challenges and needs which I am quite sure are difficult to address. Additionally, I would also like to thank the Commissioners for continued support of Economic Development in Sampson County, we are a tax base challenged county and only through Economic growth and thus increased tax base can our County grow funds to provide for the County needs without necessitating crippling property tax rates. Thanks for all that you do."

Chairman Kivett opened the floor for public comments. The following were received:

Glenn Faison - "Good evening again. My name is Glenn Faison. 7161 Old Warsaw Road. I guess by me giving the address you know why I'm up here. Normally my sister comes. She's been coming diligently for over two years to talk about the water situation on Old Warsaw Road. Recently I was able to have a conversation with Secretary Michael Reagan who is actually from Goldsboro who was over the Environmental Health Protection Agency. I was telling him about the situation in Sampson County, more or less Turkey, Old Warsaw Road situation and he shared that sometimes you've just got to bring attention to stuff. I spoke earlier about leveling the playing field. I know your work is hard, ladies and gentlemen, but you signed up for it. I mean, to whom much is given, much is required. You signed up to be an elected official and to serve the population of Sampson County and I'm not saying you're not doing a good job, I'm just going to say that you're not doing a fantastic job, so I'll give you some medium there. I'm still disturbed by, when I turn on Old Warsaw Road and we go by Timberlake there's a small water plant sitting there and ten minutes down the road is my house and several of my neighbors' homes on that road and yet our thing is distance. Old Warsaw Road is a straight road, probably 10 miles from the Sampson County line to 403. All we ask, as I said, is a level playing field. I understand this

works through grants and this is not county funded stuff, but I also understand if you roll up your sleeves, do work. I have a nonprofit and I still think about what we do and have been able to do over the years, stuff that people thought we'd never be able to do but we've been able to obtain millions of dollars over the years to serve the youth of Sampson County. For free. For free. And so, I look at what I do and I understand that if it's possible for me, it should be possible, just roll up your sleeves and do the work. I understand Mr. Turlington, he gave us hope a few months ago. I read a newspaper article and the next to the last paragraph was about Old Warsaw Road and I guess it depends how you look at it you can still say there's hope but there is no kind of vision of when there will be a positive outcome. So tonight and again I'm sure we'll keep coming, my sister will keep coming, my peeps are going to keep coming, we're going to keep coming because it's just a simple request. We need water. I'd love nothing more than to get a cold glass of water from my fountain and drink it. If I do it now I'm intentionally causing myself some health damage so thank you for giving me your attention and I just pray that maybe you can roll up your sleeves a little bit farther and try to help us as we try to help ourselves. Thank you. Goodnight."

Andrea Rouse - "Good evening, Andrea Rouse, Snow Hill Community, Roseboro, North Carolina and I'm here just like Mr. Faison just a reminder that we still have a very large dump in our backyard and we're dealing with some of the same things, all of the things that we've been dealing with before and just to think the ones that are in Snow Hill that still have well water in order to tap into County water now, is it what, \$1200 that they've got to pay now? And I understand with the budget and all the work y'all did, things have got to go up, but we're still suffering in Snow Hill. We know that you have jobs to do, but think about us. Make sure that everything that's supposed to be done environmentally is done for the citizens of Snow Hill. We've lived here all our lives. Our parents, our grandparents, we've lived there. We've built that place. My grandchildren, my great-grandchildren will probably be living in Snow Hill. Every chance I can pick up a piece of land in Snow Hill I buy it because that's my future, that's my heritage, but that dump is still there. But, I don't want to give up on my people because of that large toxic landfill. So, just don't forget about us. Make sure that we're making sure that everything environmentally sound is being done for the people of Snow Hill. Thank you for your time."

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Lethia Lee and seconded by Commissioner Godwin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

/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