

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 18, 2024**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, March 18, 2024 in the Commissioners Boardroom in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charles Jordan, Chairman  
Barry Overman, Vice-Chairman  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Sean Lavin  
Jonathan Meads  
Sam Davis  
Clifford Shaw

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sparty Hammett, County Manager  
John Shannon, Assistant County Manager  
Mike Cox, County Attorney  
Mike Barclift, Management Fellow  
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Charles Jordan. Commissioner Clifford Shaw gave the invocation and officers from the ECPPS ROTC led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Jordan welcomed those in attendance.

**1. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Vice-Chairman Barry Overman requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee to the Consent Agenda: 1) Approval of Request by College of the Albemarle for a Portion of Sentara Albemarle Medical Center Property; 2) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) Interoperability; 3) Approval of Purchase of Twiford Property; 4) Approval of Renewal of Horseshoe Road Farm Lease; and adding the following item to New Business: 5) Consideration of Development Finance Initiative (DFI) Proposal to Conduct Pre-Development Feasibility Assessment.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to amend the agenda to add Items #1-4 to the Consent Agenda and Item #5 to New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

**2. NCDOT – PROPOSED CHANGES TO HUGHES BOULEVARD:**

Chairman Jordan called on Brooks Braswell, NCDOT Project Development Engineer, to provide a project update on the proposed changes to Hughes Boulevard (U-5940 Project) and to answer questions the Board may have. Mr. Braswell provided an overview of the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP), and explained how projects are scored.

Mr. Braswell stated that the Hughes Boulevard project was selected under P 4.0 in the regional impact category for addition to the STIP. In 2016, the Albemarle RPO and the division assigned the project the maximum amount of points that can be assigned to one individual project. Since the project scored so high and because of the problems we have along the corridor and benefits that we would receive by putting the project in place, it actually entered the STIP as a committed project. Therefore, it did not have to go back through prioritization. In January 2017, the project was added to the STIP and programmed for planning and environmental. A Public Meeting was held on February 20, 2024. The current schedule is for right-of way work in October 2027 and construction in July 29. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$41.8 million.

**Project Objectives:**

- Improve mobility and travel conditions along US 17 (Hughes Boulevard) within the project limits
  - Improve safety with the removal of signalized intersections
  - Improve intersection efficiency with roundabouts
- Provide accommodations for bicycles and pedestrians in the project area

- Integrated Mobility Division will require sidewalk along corridor – no cost to Town/County
- Sidewalks behind curb & gutter (pending maintenance agreement)

The roadway will have typical 11' lanes, with a center concrete median dividing the roadway, which will limit the amount of left turns.

Part of the scoring criteria is accident based. He explained that accidents weigh heavily in the scoring of the project. From 2018 to 2023, there were 270 total crashes along this particular part of the corridor. There were four pedestrian incidents, four cyclist incidents, and 38% of the crashes resulted in injuries, which included two fatalities. As part of the scoring process, there was an intersection analysis performed. For the most part, they determined that limiting the corridor to a concrete median and leaving signals in place will not be an option.

Mr. Braswell explained that roundabout alters traffic, but have a positive impact. The current delay is 21-24 seconds at West Main Street. The roundabouts will reduce average delay to between 10-13 seconds. They will reduce the total crashes by 41-46%, fatal & injury crashes by 76-79%, and frontal impact crashes by 62-75%

Cumulative Delay – based on current volumes – signal vs. roundabout

- 151.25 hours per day / (signalized)
- 77.3 hours per day (roundabout) 51% reduction – traffic has to flow better

Mr. Braswell said the Hughes Boulevard project plans to minimize and mitigate adverse impact to traffic flow in the surrounding area, ensure design that allows for safe emergency response, and minimize and mitigate adverse impacts on those residents that reside along US 17. He said they understand that there is concern with the public meeting maps that they presented. They consider the maps to be their worst case scenario. The maps were a conceptual design. As they get into the details of the construction plan and design, the footprint is most likely to be reduced, and there may not be as many impacts that will occur along the corridor as were shown. Also at the public meeting, they founds that the majority of the public in the surrounding community would rather have had the roundabout located at Broad Street instead of Bell Street, and said that it is certainly an option.

Mr. Braswell said there were lots of concerns about the actual function of roundabouts. He explained that there are 32 conflict points at a conventional intersection, but only 8 conflicts at a modern roundabout. Roundabouts reduce the types of conflicts and the number of conflicts to only 8. At typical intersections, you have head-on collisions or T-bones. At roundabouts, you generally have sideswipes and less severe types of accidents, thus improving overall safety. Another concern that was realized at the public meeting was that generally east of I-95, there are not that many roundabouts. He provided a map of current roundabouts located across North Carolina. He noted that there are quite a number of roundabouts and more are being installed daily.

Additionally, there were concerns with there being four to five roundabouts installed in a row. He stated that this concept has been put in place in Fayetteville, as well as other locations. The traffic along the corridor in Fayetteville is somewhat similar to the traffic along Hughes Boulevard. The Fayetteville corridor is operated by roughly 19,000 vehicles per day and operates efficiently. He noted that there are applications that they can do to the roundabouts to make them more efficient. They term them a turbo type roundabout, where you are channelized before you actually enter. The inside lane is dedicated to go through and the right hand lane will be right only. He said they have not gotten that deep into the design yet.

In conclusion, Mr. Braswell stated that the proposed design will have a positive impact on traffic flow, reducing average intersection wait times and traffic queue lengths; will reduce the number of accidents along the corridor, thus providing a safer route for commuters; and can be safely and effectively navigated by emergency vehicles. He said the impacts to adjacent properties will be minimized to the greatest extent possible. He said NCDOT would like to see the project put in place and asked that the County support the project. He stated that he would be glad to answer any questions the Board may have.

Commissioner Lavin said he attended the public meeting and thought there was some good information provided. He finds some of the information presented tonight answers some of the questions posed at the public meeting. He said some of the information is different than what he was told at the meeting. He was told that this project has been on the books for a long time. It got him thinking that maybe this project had not been looked at for a while because it doesn't seem to really address any of our most pressing needs or concerns within the county, with regards to roads. He thinks it is a pretty big price tag to put on something that we don't deem as the most important thing in this region. The fact that Mr. Braswell said that projects get reviewed every two years just helps illustrate that the whole STIP scoring system is messed up. He doesn't know any other way to put it.

Commissioner Lavin said the PowerPoint states that the project is designed to accommodate access management and improve mobility while at the meeting they were told about the accidents and the fatalities, it is not the most dangerous road or intersection here. He has a lot of the same concerns that his colleagues from the City have about this project diverting traffic through other side roads, because people will want to avoid the area. What was not mentioned tonight was the change in speed limit that was talked about at the public meeting. The speed limit will go from 45 to 25 in certain portions of the project. Mr. Braswell explained that maybe as you approach the roundabouts, but he is not sure about the actual reduction in speed. Commissioner Lavin said he has some serious concerns with the amount of disruption that this is going to do to businesses and residents along the corridor. He said even individuals that are not affected by actual property takeover and emanate domain will be affected, because patrons cannot turn directly into their place of business. He still does not understand why we do something like this for that stretch of road whose needs quite frankly will probably change in the next two years, with something different going into the hospital location.

Commissioner Griffin stated that the other night was the first time that any member of our STI/RPO group would have seen DOT's drawings even though it was eight to nine years ago when it was put on the plan as a road of concern. Annually or every two years, projects have come up that have been determined to need some type of significant improvements, such as Morgan's Corner. The roundabouts caught them off guard too when they saw the project design. When he talked to the DOT's consultant he asked them questions about the Bell Street roundabout, and whether they had ridden the site to see what kind of impact it would have and they had not. He said the RPO and NPO groups look at projects and they see what DOT feels is their most significant project, but they do not have any input on the design and how the project moves forward or how long it takes to do it. There are projects right now that have been on the committee for 15 years now and have not moved.

Vice-Chairman Overman asked if the map of roundabouts in North Carolina included just DOT roundabouts. Mr. Braswell stated that the map includes DOT and municipal roundabouts. Vice-Chairman Overman said he travels to NC State often and they have corrected a lot of their intersections with roundabouts. Mr. Braswell said they worked on preliminary engineering for that particular project. They installed roundabouts along the entire length of the campus and it has worked out well. Vice-Chairman Overman said opinions are subjective to what "you are used to". He understands the community's reaction, because it is something new and different, and if you are not familiar with roundabouts, it looks like they would be a hindrance rather than help. Mr. Braswell said DOT's main goal is to increase safety and mobility at the same time. Vice-Chairman Overman said EMS, police, and fire certainly understand the purpose of roundabouts for safety. He said to him protection and safety of the public should be the #1 priority and there is certainly data that goes into this. Nobody likes 4-way stop signs, but they are put in place because of traffic accidents, not because someone doesn't like stop signs. He said there are faces that go with those crashes, many that he has been firsthand.

Commissioner Meads said if you get in one of the turning lanes on the Perquimans side of the county and come down toward north of town, it seems like it would make more sense to widen the turning lane. He noted that there have been many accidents due to the turning lane. He said there is also a lot of concern with large commercial trucks. Mr. Braswell assured him that the roundabouts are designed with a radius that will accommodate commercial vehicles. He stated that they will have to make adjustments to their approach to wherever they are trying to get to, but the roundabouts are designed to accommodate those vehicles. He noted that large buses use roundabout all day long in front of NC State.

Commissioner Meads also received a concern from a business owner about Ward Street becoming a one-way street. Mr. Braswell stated that some of those details are still up for debate. He doesn't think that they have mandated that any particular street has to be a one-way street yet. There are some streets that they may cut off access to, or make them right in or right out possibly. Commissioner Meads asked if DOT has looked into widening the center lane down US 17. Mr. Braswell said making the center turn lane bigger will not necessarily make it safer. Therefore, they would be spending money and still have the same safety issues that are occurring along the corridor.

Commissioner Davis asked if there has been an economic study on the impact to businesses on the corridor and how many will be put out of business. Mr. Braswell stated that there is an economic component to the overall score. He is not sure how indebt the studies go as far as each individual business on the initial scoring processes. He noted that there will be some economic impacts that will be detrimental to the businesses along the corridor, but the overall economic impact may actually benefit them in the long run.

Commissioner Davis said there are several things that have come to mind when he looked at this project. He has received all kinds of phone calls about the needle exchange program, but that wasn't nothing compared to the calls and people stopping him on the street talking about roundabouts. More citizens are upset about this than anything he has run into in a long time. He's sure that DOT thinks it is a misunderstanding of what is going on, but he shares that same misunderstanding. He said he sees what Mr. Braswell is saying, but 50 years ago, they put a median in front of his hardware store, which was on this exact same road. He said they were told that putting a median there was to save lives and to make it more careful. Five years later, they came and scraped the median up because it wasn't right. His fear is what makes us think that this is the right thing to do. He knows that it is a conceptual idea, but someone needs to prove to him that this is going to save lives, save money, and that it is the right thing to do. He asked why they aren't putting a roundabout in front of the new hospital.

Commissioner Shaw said he would like to reiterate what Commissioner Meads said regarding how the project would affect buses and larger vehicles as they go through the roundabouts. Mr. Braswell said the roundabouts will be designed to handle commercial vehicles. Where they have been implemented in other areas, these concepts work, and they save lives. He said they can't prove it will work here, but they can prove that it has worked in other places. He stated that it is a new concept and it may be difficult for people in our area to gravitate towards roundabout until they see them in place and see them work. He stated that without installing them, we will not get the safety benefit and the mobility benefit.

Commissioner Davis urged DOT staff to stay in case there is somebody in the audience that wants to speak so they can hear their comments.

### **3. TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT:**

Chairman Jordan called on Bobbie Lowe, Regional Vice President of Trillium Health Resources to come forward to provide their annual report. Ms. Lowe thanked the Board for allowing her to share information. She said she will go over some big changes that have happened in the last three months.

Ms. Lowe provided the following PowerPoint presentation:

- In FY 22-23 Served 43,571 unique individuals with severe behavioral needs
  - 32,929 For Mental Health, 12,526 For Substance Abuse, and 7,456 For Intellectual Developmental Disability
- Total spent on services: \$653,498,469

Medicaid Transformation Changes

- Original date to go live with Tailored Plan was July 1, 2022
  - Delayed over the past 2 years
- NC General Assembly took steps to help ensure Tailored Plans can go live and be successful
  - Changed number of Tailored Plans from 6 to 4 or 5
  - Increased Minimum Population to 1.5 Million
  - Gave Secretary of Health and Humans Services authority to make changes to LME/MCO structure to ensure Tailored Plans Go Live
  - Go Live Date July 1, 2024

#### Consolidation

- 11/01/23: NC DHHS Secretarial Directive issued
- 11/17/23: Consolidation Plans due to NC DHHS
- 12/15/23: Consolidation Agreement approved by Trillium & Eastpointe
- 12/18/23: Consolidation Agreement approved by NC DHHS Secretary Kinsley
- 01/01/24 Consolidation Effective Date for operations
- 02/01/24 Consolidation Effective Date for Members & Providers

#### Five Regions

- 46 Counties
- Total Population 3.1 million
  - 51,000 Tailored Plan Members
  - 163,000 Medicaid Direct Members
  - 287,000 Uninsured Members

#### Tailored Plan

- For Members who have severe behavioral health, Substance Use Disorder, and I/DD Population
- Will be Managing Whole Person Care
  - Behavioral Health Services, Physical Health Care, and Pharmacy Benefits
- Most Individual's, even those with mild to moderate behavioral health needs are now managed under Standard Plans and have been since July 2021
  - Amerihealth Caritas NC Inc., Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC, UnitedHealthcare of NC Inc., WellCare of NC Inc., and Carolina Complete Health- covers regions 3, 4 and 5

#### Changes in Care Management

- Expanded Provider Based Tailored Care Management
- Plan Based Tailored Care Management since soft launch
- Developed new specialized teams:
  - T Star: Trillium Support Transition and Re-Entry, Rapid Access Care Coordination, and DSS Foster Care Management
- Focus on Whole Person Care
- Population Health

#### Project Updates

- Substance Abuse Prevention in Schools
- Naloxone Kits
- Summits
- Value Based Purchasing
- Re-Entry Simulations
- Family Solutions
- One Community
- 

#### Upcoming Projects

- CHES Health (app to help people get into long-term recovery)
- Back@Home North Carolina (helps provide people who are homeless with support)
- Oxford Houses

#### Consumers served in Pasquotank County

Total Consumers served – 1,191

- Mental Health – 862
- Substance Use – 246
- I/DD – 246

Total is duplicated, since a single individual may receive services in more than one category.

Ms. Lowe said she would be more than willing to answer questions if the Board has any.

Commissioner Lavin stated that the County has three full-time Community Paramedics. He said he is aware the County does not have a facility for drug rehab, but asked if the County makes referrals to them for substance abuse treatment or counseling. Ms. Lowe said if their Medicaid is managed under them or they have no health insurance, they would be referred through them. If their Medicaid is managed by standard plan or they have private insurance, then that is the avenue that they would take to access care. She said even though there is not a residential facility here, there is substance abuse treatment and community based services available in Pasquotank County. She stated that there is a licensed opioid treatment program, as well as office based opioid treatment. There are also substance abuse counselors and there is now an assertive community treatment team providing services in Pasquotank County. She said there is

a good number that are community based that you don't always necessarily have to see a big brick and mortar.

Commissioner Davis asked if he saw someone on the street that he wanted to help and he knows they have a mental health problem, who would he call. Ms. Lowe advised him to call Mobile Crisis, because they can come directly to them.

Commissioner Shaw said there are approximately 180 homeless people in Elizabeth City. He asked for Mobile Crisis cards that he can pass out in the community.

Commissioner Lavin asked that Ms. Lowe provide the Board with any information they can use to direct people to get mental health or substance abuse help. Ms. Lowe explained that Trillium operates a 24 hour a day call center. Anytime someone calls, they are screened and triaged and referred as appropriate. They refer people directly to mental crisis or sometimes they connect them up with a community based provider. She assured the Board she will provide them with the information.

The Board thanked Ms. Lowe for the support she provides in Pasquotank County.

**4. PRESENTATION/UPDATE – ELIZABETH CITY PASQUOTANK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**

Chairman Jordan called on Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent of Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public School to present an update.

Dr. Parker introduced three ECPPS students. He stated that he is so proud of these three young people and they impress him with who they are. The students shared some things about themselves and activities they are involved in at ECPPS. Dr. Parker said we can't have school be everything for every kid, but school has to be something for every kid. He stated that these young people have found something in school that they love and are passionate about. He said one of the students works in a local restaurant. He was in his ROTC uniform because he was getting ready to go to a Committee of 100 Event. He was talking to some visitors whom he had never met before. The visitors were so impressed with him that they wrote a check for \$1,000 to the JROTC program.

Dr. Parker stated that ECPPS is invested in giving our kids a well-rounded, unique perspective on how to build partnerships and coalitions, and get past conflict, and figure out how to work together and do service for our community.

Dr. Parker said ECPPS is launching in August a Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program. It will initially be at three schools, JC Sawyer, Central Elementary, and Northside Elementary. It will be a program for rising kindergarten and first grade students. Essentially, what that means is, next year there will be one of these classrooms in all three of the schools. Parents can choose to put their children in the class. Currently, 100 parents have enrolled their children. On the first day of class, those children in the class will have a Spanish speaking teacher, and that teacher will begin to speak in Spanish on the first day of school. Most of the children will not speak Spanish when they enter the classroom. He said there is something about the young brain that just by being immersed in a language you learn by hearing. What happens very quickly is students start to repeat what they hear the teacher saying and then they begin to have a fluency in the language.

Dr. Parker stated that they visited several schools this year where kindergartners in December and January were having conversations in Spanish. Spanish was not their first language. They spent all day in the Spanish classroom and they just started learning by ear. If a student stays in the program over the course of elementary, you learn to write and speak in Spanish and English. One of the things that they have learned about Spanish language programs is they reinforce your first language, because learning a second language teaches you about the structure of language. He is really excited about this opportunity.

Dr. Parker explained that there are a lot of these programs in North Carolina. Cumberland County has several of them and Charlotte-Mecklenburg has language academies where students learn three languages. So, this is not a new concept to North Carolina. Students in language programs outperformed those students across the state that was not in programs on their North Carolina end of grade assessments. He stated that ECPPS is working toward a K-12 pathway that exposes our students to a lot of things about the world.

Dr. Parker said by offering the Spanish Language Program in elementary school, students can go into the program in kindergarten and begin to develop a second language right away. By the time those students get into middle school, they will be fluent in English and Spanish, and will go into an International Baccalaureate (IB). ECPPS partnered with IB, and Elizabeth City Middle School was accepted by the program three weeks ago as the first IB school east of Wilson County in eastern North Carolina. ECPPS will be implementing this global program at ECMS in August. A year from now, River Road Middle School will be implemented in the same IB program. By the summer of 2025, both of our middle schools will be IB academies. Those students will then get to decide when they get to high school if they want to stay with the International track. If they decide to do that, they will be speaking two languages already, and when they walk across Northeastern and Pasquotank stages they will get a diploma that has their high school name on it and a globally recognized seal on that diploma. IB diplomas are recognized in over 100 countries around the world. In that process, they will have gained college course work, they will have learned two languages, they will have written essays, and they will be prepared to receive their diploma. It is something that our young people can take with them wherever they decide to go.

Dr. Parker provided an update on capital projects they have been working on. He stated that P.W. Moore Gym has been renovated. New bleachers have been installed. They painted the entire gym and resurfaced the floor. He said it is beautiful. He invited Board members to stop by and look at the renovation. Next year, ECPPS is bringing back their elementary basketball program for grades 3, 4, and 5. P.W. Moore will house the March Madness Tournament. They hosted the first annual P.W. Moore Alumni Breakfast. Mr. Hip Barclift was able to get the wood from the original, 100 year-old bleachers and had it converted into benches. The benches were auctioned off at the event. Former Principals and Superintendents were recognized.

Dr. Parker stated that every school in the district has received brand new furniture for their classrooms and media centers. The furniture is open space type furniture, which can be moved and connected. Their finance department has been able to smartly use federal COVID money to help them with some purchases. Some improvements have been made at Northeastern on the C Building (Band Room and Fine Arts Building). By the summer, every elementary school in the district will have brand new playground equipment, which will be funded through federal COVID money as well. They have installed new equipment in the e-sports video game lab as well.

Dr. Parker provided an update on where they are with the Pasquotank Elementary School plans that he shared with the community last week. ECPPS has been conducting community meetings. The Board of Education will hold a public hearing in April. They are in the process of developing rezoning maps and will share them with families. They are making a commitment to parents that they will get their child to their nearest neighborhood school, and do everything they can to maximize their bus routes. They are working with each staff member and have had one on one staff meetings to specifically place and determine what schools they will work in. He stated their commitment is that nobody is losing a job in this transition. Their goal is that by the summer of 2025 they will be able to move their pre-k program into the building and expand it over time.

Commissioner Shaw said he had a chance to visit P.W. Moore for the Community Model Program.

Commissioner Davis commended Dr. Parker, his Board, his teachers, and all his staff for doing such a wonderful job. He thinks our kids are truly blessed to have the support they do. He believes everything is going in the right direction.

Commissioner Meads thanked Dr. Parker for the update. He said sometimes change is hard, but it was definitely needed.

Vice-Chairman Overman said our school system is transforming lives. His son is a better kid because of the ECPPS system. He noted that his son will be attending Governor's School with the young lady who spoke earlier. He is so proud of what is going on in our schools. He recently read to 1<sup>st</sup> graders at Sheep Harney Elementary and he was so impressed with their mannerism and attention.

Commissioner Griffin thanked Dr. Parker for what he is trying to do with our students and giving them the opportunity to succeed.

Commissioner Lavin thanked Dr. Parker and said he appreciates the job he is doing with the school system and we are very fortunate to have him.

Chairman Jordan thanked Dr. Parker and his staff and said the Board will always be supportive of ECPPS. He acknowledged school board members in attendance.

**5. COMMENTS BY JAMES MORRIS:**

Chairman Jordan called on James Morris of 959 Halls Creek Road to address the Board. Mr. Morris asked how the proposed roundabouts will affect the railroad tracks along Hughes Boulevard. He also said he would like to see the records for accidents on Hughes Boulevard and what can be done to help eliminate a lot of them without spending so much money.

**6. COMMENTS BY RENEE' STALLINGS:**

Chairman Jordan called on Renee' Stallings to address the Board. Ms. Stallings stated that the state is probably going to do what it wants to do with regard to the roundabouts, but the citizens want to know how the County feels about it. She said she would like to see another healthcare facility go in the old hospital when it is vacated, because our area is in need of more medical care. She asked if there is a reason why another healthcare center can't be located here.

**7. COMMENTS BY SHEILA SIMPSON:**

Chairman Jordan called on Sheila Simpson to address the Board. Ms. Simpson introduced members of the Human Relations Commission. She informed the Board that all the members of the Human Relations Commission have received their required training and are attending meetings throughout the state. They have been collaborating with Elizabeth City Downtown. Next month is Fair Housing Month. They have invited individuals in the field to attend their meeting to talk with citizens. The Witherspoon Banquet will be on May 10<sup>th</sup>. She thanked the Board for their support over the years and said she looks forward to working with the Board in the future.

**8. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**

Vice-Chairman Overman said at the last meeting the Board accepted the nomination of Gloria Frelix to the Elizabeth City Planning Commission. A copy of her application has been provided to Board members. Since that time, no additional applications have been received, and the Board can now vote to appoint Ms. Frelix.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sam Davis to appoint Gloria Frelix to the Elizabeth City Planning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

**9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of March 4, 2024 Commissioner Meeting

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

**Tax Release**

	Taxpayer	County	City
1.	Jeff Berry Etal	238.70	

**Tax Refunds**

	Taxpayer	County	City
1.	AG Carolina Farm Credit	132.94	
2.	Tamara Lynn Atkinson & Paul Marshall Atkinson	107.72	
3.	Jeffrey Alan Burley	106.12	115.89
4.	Brian Edward Driggers	101.12	
5.	Bryan Neal Hendricks	186.51	



6.	Gene Patrick Perserik and Jennifer Anne Perserik	162.49	154.62
7.	Aubrey Mack Sawyer, Jr.	146.57	
8.	Kelly Richard & Jennifer Winslow	119.04	
9.	Kelly Richard & Jennifer Winslow	119.04	
10.	Kelly Richard & Jennifer Winslow	104.72	
11.	Kelly Richard & Jennifer Winslow	104.72	

Solid Waste Fee Releases

	Owner's Name	Parcel ID #	Reason for Release
1.	Jean Bush & Flossy Overton	P130-14	Vacant
2.	Dildra Lax	26-B-32	Vacant
3.	Dildra Lax	26-B-4	Vacant
4.	Selma M. White Kyles	35-A-28	Vacant
5.	Terry Brent & Teleda L. Meads	P6-21A	Vacant
6.	Carl J. Jr & April C. Waywright	P133A-72	Vacant
7.	Selma White	35-C-34	Vacant
8.	Selma White	35-C-33B	Vacant

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following budget amendments:

Register of Deeds

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	10,000.00
Increase	010.4180.5800.00	Automation and Preservation	10,000.00

Emergency Management

Increase	010.0220.4532.00	Other Grants	15,000.00
Increase	010.4330.5650.00	Local Grants	15,000.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0240.4380.39	Bureau of Justice Assistance	28,900.00
Increase	010.4310.5310.00	Travel	2,489.00
Increase	010.4310.5311.00	Training	26,411.00

Central/911

Increase	010.0230.4370.00	State Grants	61,204.00
Increase	010.4325.5500.00	Capital Outlay	61,204.00

Central/911

Increase	010.0230.4370.00	State Grants	49,985.00
Increase	010.4325.5500.00	Capital Outlay	49,985.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0600.4950.00	School Security	4,924.00
Increase	010.4315.5310.00	Travel-SRO	4,924.00

Emergency Management

Increase	010.0600.4833.00	Donations	2,700.00
Increase	010.4330.5650.00	Local Grant-Expenses	2,700.00

Emergency Management

Increase	010.0230.4433.02	Emergency Management Grant	2,000.00
Increase	010.4330.5636.03	Tier II Funds	2,000.00

Sheriff

Increase	010.0991.4991.00	Fund Balance Appropriated	130,000.00
Increase	010.4310.5500.00	Capital Outlay	130,000.00

d. Adoption of Resolution Recognizing and Approving of the Pasquotank County Official America 250 NC Committee

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following resolution officially establishing an America 250 NC Committee:

**Resolution of Pasquotank County  
Recognizing and Approving of the Pasquotank County  
Official America 250 NC Committee**

A resolution of Pasquotank County, North Carolina, supporting the America 250 NC Committee for the United States semiquincentennial (AMERICA 250 NC).

WHEREAS, Roy Cooper, Governor of North Carolina created AMERICA 250 NC to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States and North Carolina's integral role in that event and the role of its people on the nation's past, present, and future: and

WHEREAS, AMERICA 250 NC has a mission to engage ALL North Carolinians and ALL 100 counties through their many signatures and officially recognized programs, projects, and events over the commemoration by inspiring future leaders and celebrating North Carolina's contributions to the nation over the last 250 years; and

WHEREAS, by adoption of America 250 NC's mission, Pasquotank County Committee is officially formed to achieve the goals of America 250 NC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Pasquotank hereby endorses AMERICA 250 NC and its mission; and

RESOLVED, the County of Pasquotank officially establishes an AMERICA 250 NC Committee made up of a diverse group of citizens to work with AMERICA 250 NC on any and all activities. The participants of the Pasquotank County Committee will be strictly voluntary roles and there will be no compensation for participation.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Pasquotank legislative delegation and the AMERICA 250 NC Committee.

ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

e. Approval of Request by College of the Albemarle for a Portion of Sentara Albemarle Medical Center Property

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to convey the Cancer Center and EMS Station 50 to COA when they are available, and to defer action on the parking lot between the buildings and an easement to the SAMC road.

f. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) Interoperability

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to execute a memorandum of Understanding to affect CAD interoperability between Currituck County Communications, Pasquotank-Camden Central Communications, and Perquimans-Gates Communications.

g. Approval of Purchase of Twiford Property to Address Parking and Space Needs

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the purchase of the Twiford Law Firm Property for \$500,000.

h. Approval of Renewal of Horseshoe Road Farm Lease

The Finance Committee has recommended a ten-month lease extension with Ernest Cartwright to lease 2.46 acres of farmland located on Horseshoe Road for \$100 per year and to bid out the lease next year.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS BY APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:**

Vice-Chairman Overman, Chairman of the Appointments Committee, reported that the Appointments Committee met today and would like to recommend the following appointment and reappoints:

Senior Tarheel Legislature – Appoint Albert Robinson Jr as the STHL Alternate. This appointment must lie over two weeks.

Highway 17 Association Board of Directors – Reappoint Lloyd Griffin.

Home & Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee – Reappoint full slate of recommended appointees.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to accept the nomination of Albert Robinson, Jr. to the Senior Tarheel Legislature and to approve the reappointments recommended by the Appointments Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE (DFI) PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT PREDEVELOPMENT FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT:**

The Finance Committee recommended approval by a 4 to 3 vote to contract with Development Finance Initiative (DFI) to conduct a Pre-Development Feasibility Analysis of the Sentara Albemarle Medical Center property for \$97,000 using unbudgeted Interest Earned and the budget amendment below:

Increase	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	97,000
Increase	010.4195.5440.00	Contracted Services	97,000

Motion was made by Clifford Shaw, seconded by Barry Overman to contract with Development Finance Initiative (DFI) to conduct a Pre-Development Feasibility Analysis for the Sentara Albemarle Medical Center property for \$97,000 and its associated budget amendment. The motion carried 4 to 3, with Commissioners Lavin, Meads, and Davis voting in opposition.

**12. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Shaw reported that he attended the Community Read Day at Sheep Harney Elementary School on March 6<sup>th</sup>. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, he served food at the SOULS Ministry Feeding Program. On March 11<sup>th</sup>, he spoke with constituents regarding their concerns with shootings in their neighborhood. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, he attended the Democratic Party meeting. On March 17<sup>th</sup>, he served at the SOULS Ministry Feeding Program.

Commissioner Davis attended Commissioner Lavin’s father’s funeral. He expressed his condolences from the Board. He also attended a close friend’s funeral and reminded everyone that we are only here for a short time, and we all need to recognize each other’s work.

Commissioner Meads said he did not have any meetings in the last two weeks. He will be attending the Solid Waste/Landfill Committee meeting next week.

Commissioner Lavin thanked the Board and staff for their condolences during his father’s passing. He attended the Keel Club event last week. He attended two public meetings. One was for a project located on the city/county border and another was on the Highway 17 project. The citizens who attended the community meeting for the Highway 17 project were overwhelmingly against the project. He can’t say that he heard one single positive comment from the public that attended. He applauds the City for notifying the state that they did not support the current plan. He said he would like to see this Board do the same. He doesn’t feel that it is in the best interest of the residents of the County. He believes there are probably a lot of cheaper ways to do it for basically the same impact. He added that he agrees with Commissioner Davis that life is short and to make sure you make the most of it.

Commissioner Griffin attended the DOT meeting on the proposed changes to Hughes Boulevard. At the meeting, he suggested readjusting one roundabout from Bell Street to Broad Street. He

stated that the project has been in the works for eight or nine years. Last summer, DOT carried the proposed plan to the City Manager and the Mayor, but the RPO Board did not see the proposal. The project has been identified by DOT as a safety concern.

Vice-Chairman Overman said our Airport Manager Scott Hinton spoke at Rotary and provided an update on construction at the Airport. He stated that the building design is one of a kind. He read to 1<sup>st</sup> graders at Sheep Harney Elementary School. He attended the Food Bank Legislative Breakfast and toured the facility. He said Food Bank is doing very impressive work for the Albemarle area and all the counties they represent. A new food pantry will be going in the old Highway 55 building. He encouraged everyone to volunteer and get involved. He stated that he is a very proud dad, because his son was accepted into Governor's School.

Vice-Chairman Overman said when it comes to anything, whether it is a needle exchange program, or a DOT roundabout, his comments will always come from public safety. He went to his first fatality when he was 18 years old by himself and witnesses a 16 year old who went through a stop sign and was killed. It shaped the rest of his life on "how a face goes with a name". He has been to so many wrecks on the Hughes Boulevard corridor and his comments are completely out of public safety. He knows that it affects people, it affects traffic, and it affects property, but he will always bear on safety. It is where he came from and what he knows. If he has a question about a house, he will call Commissioner Meads because he knows because he builds houses. If he is going to buy something, he will call Commissioner Davis. If he needs an airship, he will call Commissioner Lavin.

Chairman Jordan attended the Ministers Council meeting. He read to 1<sup>st</sup> graders at Sheep Harney Elementary School. He said those young kids are really awesome. He attended the ECSU Founder's Day Program. He attended the Green Saves Green meeting. They are very concerned about trash in the area and they are doing all that they can to beautify Pasquotank County. Clerk Scott reminded the Board that there is a scheduled cleanup this Saturday in preparation of the Coast Guard Marathon. He attended the Northern Regional Trillium meeting. He expressed his sympathy to Commissioner Lavin. He said he knows it's not easy because he has been there. He said his prayers are with him and his family.

There being nothing further business to come before the Board;

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Barry Overman to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK TO THE BOARD