

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
MAY 21, 2018**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, May 21, 2018 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. William R. Sterritt, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Dixon
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.
Frankie Meads
Charles H. Jordan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cecil Perry, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Sparty Hammett, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board
Patrice Stewart, Tax Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice-Chairman Bill Sterritt. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Commissioner Frankie Meads led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Vice-Chairman Sterritt welcomed everyone present. He introduced Mr. Don McCabe and thanked him for his contributions to the community.

1. CONTINUATION OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW:

Vice-Chairman Sterritt reconvened the Board of Equalization and Review which was recessed at the last meeting. He asked to hear any appeals from taxpayers regarding their tax assessment. Tax Administrator Patrice Stewart stated that no additional appeals have been received in her office.

Motion to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review for 2018 was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Joe Winslow. The motion carried unanimously.

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Sterritt asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Dixon requested that the agenda be amended to add the following four items recommended by the Finance Committee to Consent Agenda: 1) Approval of Bid for Tower Modification at Wellfield Site; 2) Approval of Pay Grade/Step for Roll-Off Truck Driver; 3) Approval of Pay Grade/Step for IMCII; and 4) Approval of Legislative Agenda for Short Session and add the following item to New Business: 1) Call for a Public Hearing on Moratorium on New Solar Farms.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to amend the agenda to add the additional four items to Consent Agenda and the additional item to New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of May 7, 2018 Commissioner Meeting Minutes

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and Solid Waste Fee Releases:

Tax Releases

		County	City
1.	North East Development	503.58	
2.	Quality Homes of Currituck	198.66	
3.	Edwin L. Garcia	115.78	99.79

Solid Waste Fee Releases

		Parcel ID #	Reason for Release
1.	Ginger Kelly	36-D-2	Vacant
2.	Ornie & Irene McPherson Heirs	57-A-46 & 47	Vacant
3.	Louis Sablon III	36-D-6	Vacant

c. Approval of Budget Amendments

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

Library

Increase	013.0550.4839.00	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,500.00
Increase	013.6110.5500.00	Capital Outlay	1,500.00

Cooperative Ext.

Increase	010.0230.4370.00	State Grants	2,471.00
Increase	010.4950.5600.34	Grant-SHIIP	2,471.00

d. Adoption of Order Directing the Tax Administrator to Collect 2018 Taxes

The Board is required to adopt the following order by July 1 directing and authorizing the Tax Administrator to collect the 2018 taxes.

TO: THE TAX ADMINISTRATOR OF PASQUOTANK COUNTY

You are hereby authorized, empowered and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the 2018 tax records filed in the office of the Pasquotank County Tax Administrator, and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. You are further authorized, empowered and commanded to collect the 2018 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes and additions to the tax records and tax receipts delivered to you which are made in accordance of law. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on all real property of the respective taxpayers of Pasquotank County, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for an on account thereof, in accordance with the law.

e. Permission to Provide Public Notice of Intent to Levy Sales Tax

Now that the ¼ cent sales tax referendum has passed the next step is for the Board to provide 10 days public notice that it intends on passing a resolution levying the sales tax. Staff is requesting the Board grant it permission to provide the necessary public notice and the resolution will be placed on the June 4, 2018 agenda. After the resolution is passed, a certified copy of the resolution and the certified copy of the election results of the referendum must be sent to the Department of Revenue. It is staff's opinion that the tax will begin to be levied on October 1, 2018 with the first distribution to the County in January 2019. The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the request.

f. Approval of Bid for Tower Modification at Wellfield Site

The Finance Committee has recommended awarding the bid for tower modifications at the Wellfield Site to Hightower Communications, Inc. for \$169,975.

g. Approval of Pay Grade/Step for Roll-Off Truck Driver

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of hiring a roll-off truck driver for the Solid Waste Department at Grade 12, Step 3 - \$28,384 due to the fact the candidate has held an active CDL Class B license for over five years and has a clean driving record.

h. Approval of Pay Grade/Step for IMCII

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of hiring an IMCII for the Department of Social Services at Grade 13, Step 2 - \$29,000. The candidate worked previously for Pasquotank DSS as an IMCII.

i. Approval of Legislative Agenda for Short Session

The Finance Committee has recommended the following legislative agenda for County Assembly Day:

Pasquotank County Priorities

- Support efforts for the reduction of the 80% Tax Credit for Solar Array Facilities to 60%.
- Seek legislation to require/mandate that other counties in Judicial District 1 pay their fair share of facility costs to the host county (Pasquotank) for the allocated office space for the District Attorney and Public Defender.

NCACC – Short Session Priorities

- Public Education-1: Seek legislation to establish a new state-county partnership to address statewide public school capital challenges--including but not limited to maintenance, renovation, construction and debt--through a dedicated, stable funding stream that is consistent from county to county and sufficient to meet the school facility needs of all 100 counties.
- Public Education-2: Seek legislation to repeal the statutory authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. 115C-431(c) that allows local school boards to file suit against a county board of commissioners over county appropriations for education.
- Tax and Finance-1: Support efforts to preserve and expand the existing local revenue base of counties, and oppose efforts to divert fees or taxes currently allocated to the counties to the state. Oppose efforts to erode existing county revenue streams and authorize local option revenue sources already given to any other jurisdiction.
- General Government-3: Seek legislation, funding, and other efforts to expand digital infrastructure/broadband capability to the un-served and under-served areas of the state.
- Public Education-4: Support legislation providing flexibility to align K-12 and community college calendar.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Charles Jordan to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CALL FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON MORATORIUM ON NEW SOLAR FARMS:

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Joe Winslow to call for a Public Hearing on Monday, June 4, 2018 at 7 PM in Courtroom C of the Pasquotank County Courthouse to hear comments regarding a 60-day moratorium on all new solar farm applications. The motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

Mr. Hammett provided the following report:

Potential Golden Leaf Grant Opportunity – There is a potential Golden Leaf grant opportunity to construct a joint Senior Citizen Center with Elizabeth City. I have discussed this matter with the City Manager, and this would be a good agenda item for the next Joint City-County meeting along with a discussion on the old Middle School Gym.

Meeting with Coleen Santa Ana, President of Sentara Albemarle Medical Center – On May 10th, I had an introductory meeting with Ms. Santa Ana.

Department Director Quarterly Meetings – My first quarterly Department Director meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, May 23rd.

Hometown Strong Kickoff – The Hometown Strong Kickoff is scheduled for June 4th and 5th. A representative of the Hometown Strong Team is in the County today looking at potential venues and site visits, such as the Coast Guard Base and the Amazon Wind Farm. I will forward additional information to the Board when I receive an agenda.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Jordan attended the AARP banquet which honored several outstanding seniors in our community. He stated that Vice-Chairman Sterritt was honored. He also attended the

kickoff for the Potato Festival, the Grand Opening of the new Food Lion, and a forum of the NAACP and Justice Center.

Commissioner Griffin attended the Potato Festival this past weekend, which was a well-attended event.

Commissioner Meads reminded fellow Board members of the upcoming County Assembly Day. He requested the County's lobbyist be invited to attend.

Vice-Chairman Sterritt reported that he was one of the ten individuals honored as an Outstanding Senior citizen at the recent AARP banquet. He gave greetings on behalf of the County at the opening of the Potato Festival. He stated that several individuals spoke at the recent Parks & Recreation meeting requesting a recreation facility in the northern end of the County. They would like to have a place where they can go sit, enjoy the sunlight, and have an opportunity to walk on a trail. He asked staff to form a special committee who will be responsible for identifying land in the northern part of the County suitable for such a purpose. The Board suggested Commissioners Winslow and Jordan be on the committee since they both represent the northern part of the County. He asked Attorney Cox to identify suitable land that can be purchased in the Newland area. He also asked that Commissioner Winslow be chairman of the committee. Commissioner Dixon said we should include citizens on the committee as well.

Vice-Chairman Sterritt said he will be laying a wreath on behalf of the County at the Memorial Day Ceremony at West Lawn Cemetery on Monday. He invited fellow Board members to attend. In addition, he will present a proclamation at the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk next Thursday.

Commissioner Winslow said there was recently an article in the paper about a local soldier who was killed in combat in the 82nd Airborne. He noted that he was a "short timer" who had less than 30 days before he was to be discharged. He was supposed to get married the day he returned home, but unfortunately he was returned in a casket. He said that is the price that some boys in this area paid during the Vietnam Era.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Joe Winslow to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD