

**PERQUIMANS COUNTY  
CAPITAL PROJECTS ORDINANCE  
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUND**

This Capital Projects Ordinance is being authorized for the School Construction Fund.

**Section 1: REVENUES** - The following amounts are hereby appropriated in this School Construction Funds beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.

General Assembly - Intermediate School	\$ 5,000,000
<b>TOTAL School Construction Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>

**Section 2: APPROPRIATIONS** - It is estimated that the following revenues will be available for appropriation in the School Construction Funds beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.

Intermediate School	\$ 5,000,000
<b>TOTAL School Construction Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>

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Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman  
Perquimans Co. Board of Commissioners

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**WORK SESSION**  
June 17, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners Work Session on June 17, 2024 was cancelled.

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**REGULAR MEETING**  
July 1 2024  
7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, July 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. Prior to this Regular Meeting, the Board of Commissioners convened the Board of Adjustment to hear a case to consider a Zoning Variance ZVA-24-01, requested by John and Regina Moser. The Planning Department prepared the Minutes for this hearing which was continued until August 5, 2024.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Charles Woodard, Vice Chairman  
Timothy J. Corprew Joseph W. Hoffler  
T. Kyle Jones James W. Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Hackney High, County Attorney Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board  
Robert Daniel, County Attorney Frank Heath, County Manager

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Jones gave the invocation and Chairman Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Nelson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**AGENDA**

Chairman Nelson stated that a copy of the amended Agenda was at their seats tonight. Charles Woodard made a motion to approve the amended Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by James W. Ward, and unanimously approved by the Board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any items that the Board wished to remove from the Consent Agenda to discuss. He notified the Board that Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, had requested that the approval of the June Minutes be removed from the Agenda and tabled till next month's meeting. Charles Woodard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the approval of the June Minutes being tabled till August meeting. The motion was seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler and unanimously approved by the Board.

1. **Solid Waste Fee Release Approval:**

Solid Waste Fee Release:

Truesdale, Jean K. ----- \$15,840.00

Due to a clerical error, 100 Solid Waste fees entered in error. Should have only been one. Account No. 491237.

2. **Personnel Matters:** The following personnel matters were approved by the Board:

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Joy Hayes	IMC I working against IMC II	Appointment	61/3	\$34,955	07/03/2024
Stacy Simpson	IMC I working against IMC II	Appointment	61/3	\$34,955	07/09/2024
Shawn Mims	Part-Time/Fill-In AEMT	Appointment	66/1	\$19.95/hr.	07/01/2024
Kaelyn Melton	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Appointment	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Bristyl Riddick	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Appointment	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024

Dakota Mayo	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Appointment	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Lauren Simmons	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic I	Appointment	68/2	\$22.33/hr.	07/01/2024
Michael Straka	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic / Assistant Medical Director	Appointment	68/18	\$32.98/hr.	07/01/2024
Taylor R. Russell	Full-Time Certified Telecommunicator III	Appointment	68/6	\$24.61/hr.	07/01/2024
Teresa Valentine	Data Manager/CAL Assistant	Resignation			07/01/2024
Marleny Garcia	IMC II – Food & Nutrition Services	Resignation			06/30/2024
Chloe Sehlmeier	Full-Time EMT	Resignation			08/01/2024
Tara Fowler	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic	Removed from Roster			06/06/2024
Brian Hickman	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic	Removed from Roster			06/06/2024

3. Step/Merit Increases:

Employee Name	Classification	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>				
Colleen McDonald	PT/FI TC-I	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Makayla Jones	PT/FI TC-I	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
<b>COUNTY MANAGER</b>				
Helen Hunter	Deputy Finance Officer	64/13	\$50,910	07/01/2024
Tracy Mathews	Finance Officer	78/13	\$94,287	07/01/2024
Trevor Miles	Planning Assistant	61/8	\$45,303	07/01/2024
Casey White	Human Resources Coordinator	68/1	\$45,303	07/01/2024
<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>				
Kanisha Mercer	Social Work Supervisor III	73/2	\$57,870	07/01/2024
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</b>				
Nicole Anderson	Paramedic I	68/6	\$24.61/hr.	07/01/2024
Clifton Beaman	Paramedic Shift Supervisor	72/7	\$30.07/hr.	07/01/2024
Bethany Buttram	Paramedic/MIH Coordinator	72/7	\$30.07/hr.	07/01/2024
Sonia Davenport	AEMT II	67/10	\$25.97/hr.	07/01/2024
Gary Wayne Jordan	Paramedic Shift Supervisor	72/7	\$30.07/hr.	07/01/2024
Morgan Lilly	AEMT I	66/4	\$21.47/hr.	07/01/2024
Heather Miller	Paramedic Shift Supervisor	72/6	\$29.35/hr.	07/01/2024
William 'Rob' Mitchell	Paramedic II	69/6	\$25.72/hr.	07/01/2024
Jonathan Nixon	Emergency Services Director	80/16	\$110,818	07/01/2024
Alyssa Polumbo	Paramedic/Compliance Officer	72/5	\$28.64/hr.	07/01/2024
Julie Solesbee	Assistant Emergency Services Director	76/16	\$92,927	07/01/2024
Robert Watkins	Paramedic Shift Supervisor	72/4	\$27.96/hr.	07/01/2024
James Wheeler	Paramedic I	68/5	\$24.01/hr.	07/01/2024
Jessica White	Paramedic II	69/5	\$25.09/hr.	07/01/2024
Tonya Ayers	PT Paramedic II	69/3	\$23.90/hr.	07/01/2024
Brian Brown	PT Paramedic II	69/2	\$23.33/hr.	07/01/2024
Hazelene Byrum	PT AEMT I	66/7	\$23.09/hr.	07/01/2024
Lainey Chappell	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Brayden Clemens	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
TyRee Hughes	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Andrew Jones	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Kerry Lahr	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Tabitha Martin	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Kristin Jennings	PT AEMT I	66/2	\$20.44/hr.	07/01/2024
Nathan McKeecuen	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Walter Meads	PT Paramedic I	68/7	\$25.21/hr.	07/01/2024
Mark Montgomery	PT AEMT I	66/2	\$20.44/hr.	07/01/2024
Corbin Nixon	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Brian Pauli, Jr.	PT AEMT II	67/4	\$22.43/hr.	07/01/2024
Brooke Perry	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Alexander Ross	PT Paramedic I	68/2	\$22.33/hr.	07/01/2024
Heidi Russell	PT EMT	64/3	\$19.18/hr.	07/01/2024
Mark Symons	PT EMT	64/5	\$20.14/hr.	07/01/2024
Charles vonRosenberg	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
John vonRosenberg	PT Paramedic II	68/3	\$22.87/hr.	07/01/2024
Lisa Whidbee	PT AEMT II	66/5	\$21.99/hr.	07/01/2024
Lindsay Winslow	PT EMT	64/2	\$18.72/hr.	07/01/2024
Sophia Wright	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
William Wright	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
Chloe Sehlmeier	PT EMT	64/1	\$18.26/hr.	07/01/2024
<b>BUILDING INSPECTIONS</b>				
Erle Solesbee	Assistant Building Inspector	67/4	\$46,662	07/01/2024
William Wynne, Jr.	Code Enforcement Officer	61/2	\$34,124	07/01/2024
<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS</b>				
Donna Phelps	Assistant Register of Deeds	60/11	\$40,659	07/01/2024
<b>SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b>				
Kendall Harrell	Sergeant I	72/7	\$62,543	07/01/2024
Brian Watson	Investigator I	73/6	\$63,800	07/01/2024
Damon Sizemore	Certified Deputy	68/5	\$49,949	07/01/2024
William Wright	Certified Deputy	68/2	\$46,437	07/01/2024
James Burkett, Jr.	Part-Time Certified Deputy	68/5	\$24.01 /hr.	07/01/2024
Daniel Turner	Certified Deputy	68/7	\$52,446	07/01/2024
Faran Sawyer	Certified Deputy/SRO	68/6	\$51,197	07/01/2024
Shelton White	Sheriff	79/16	\$106,045	07/01/2024
DeAngelo M. Freemonweldy	Certified Deputy	68/2	\$46,437	07/01/2024
Stephen Chappell	Animal Control Officer	63/8	\$43,138	07/01/2024
Taylor Dickey	Certified Deputy	68/2	\$46,437	07/01/2024
Christopher Murray	Certified Deputy/SRO	68/6	\$51,197	07/01/2024
Brian Baker	Animal Control Officer	63/6	\$41,084	07/01/2024
Macey Cappel	Administrative Assistant	61/4	\$35,830	07/01/2024
Ryan Cappel	Certified Deputy	68/4	\$48,760	07/01/2024
Ray Fesperman	Sergeant I	72/6	\$61,055	07/01/2024
James Fowden	Investigator I	73/7	\$65,357	07/01/2024
Brian Gregory	Certified Deputy	68/6	\$51,197	07/01/2024
Dean Polumbo, Jr.	Certified Deputy	68/4	\$48,760	07/01/2024
Thomas Reid	Chief Deputy	75/8	\$73,157	07/01/2024
Preston Ward, Jr.	Investigator I	73/7	\$65,357	07/01/2024
Lacy Robeson, III	Investigator II	74/6	\$66,672	07/01/2024

Employee Name	Classification	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
<b>SHERIFF'S OFFICE (CONTINUED)</b>				
Leroya Banks	Certified Deputy / SRO	68/3	\$47,569	07/01/2024
Quinton Jordan, Jr.	Certified Deputy	68/12	\$59,267	07/01/2024
David Murray	Sergeant of SRO's	72/4	\$58,147	07/01/2024
LeAnne Wynne	Office Manager	63/11	\$46,400	07/01/2024
Joshua 'Josh' Russell	Certified Deputy	68/1	\$45,303	07/01/2024
<b>TAX DEPARTMENT</b>				
Kimberly A. Bray	Assistant Tax Administrator	66/14	\$56,987	07/01/2024
<b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b>				
Vincent Bockelman	Water Technician I	58/9	\$35,462	07/01/2024
Robert Smith	Water Technician I	58/9	\$35,462	07/01/2024
Charles Lories	Supervisor	75/15	\$86,754	07/01/2024
Robert Elliott	Equipment Operator	64/10	\$47,332	07/01/2024
Maribeth Harris	Office Manager	65/9	\$48,255	07/01/2024
Tracy Hunter	Water Technician II	61/10	\$41,480	07/01/2024
Steven Stallings	Water Plant Operator II	69/14	\$65,031	07/01/2024
<b>*Back dated due to missed merit increase previously.</b>				

5. **Budget Amendment No. 1:** The following budget amendment was approved by the Board:

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1  
GENERAL FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-360-004	EMS – MIH Program	5,750	
10-592-735	EMS – MIH Program	5,750	

**EXPLANATION:** To amend the FY 24/25 budget to include grant funding as awarded for the EMS MIH (Mobile Integrated Healthcare) Program.

6. **Board Resignations & Reappointments:** The following board resignations/reappointments were approved by the Board:

Name	Board/Committee	Action Taken	Term	Effective Date
Mathis, Lynn	Albemarle RC&D	Resignation		05/30/2024
Wheeler, Kathryn	Recreation Advisory Board – At Large	Reappointment	3 yrs.	07/01/2024
White, Pete	Recreation Advisory Board – At Large	Reappointment	3 yrs.	07/01/2024
Chad Nixon	Recreation Advisory Board – New Hope	Resignation		05/30/2024
McDonald, Stephen	Tourism Development Authority – Industry Rep	Reappointment	2 yrs.	07/01/2024
Lyons, Jr., Rodney Darnell	Local Library Board	Reappointment	4 yrs.	07/01/2024

7. **Miscellaneous Documents:** The following miscellaneous documents were approved by the Board:

- a. **Senior Nutrition Contract for FY 2024-2025:** This contract is between Perquimans County and Albemarle Commission to handle the Senior Nutrition Program at the Center for Active Living. The cost is \$13,466,072 for 999 hours for FY 2024-2025.
- b. **Surety Bond Broker Contract with Marsh USA, LLC for FY 2024-2025:** This contract is between Perquimans County and Marsh USA, LLC to handle our surety bonds. Board action is being requested.
- c. **Resolution to Sell Vehicle on GovDeals:** The Board unanimously approved the following Resolution to declare a vehicle in the Sheriff's Office as surplus and authorize County Manager to sell it on GovDeals:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE  
OF CERTAIN SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners that:

1. The following described vehicle is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the County:

Model Year	Make	Model	VIN
2014	Dodge	Charger	2C3CDXATSEH348760

2. The County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to proceed on behalf of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners to sell this surplus item on GovDeals.
3. The County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and decide not to sell the property at any time during this process.
4. The County Manager, in accordance with State law, shall cause a summary of this resolution to be posted on bulletin board at Courthouse and place it on the County's website and Facebook page. After not less than ten (10) days from the date of publication, the County Manager is authorized to sell the above-described property to the highest bidder.

Adopted this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2024.

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Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman  
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

**SEAL**

d. **Resolution – Removal of Certain Public Record Books – Register of Deeds:** The following resolution was approved authorizing the Register of Deeds to remove certain records from the Register of Deeds Office for repair, restoration, or rebinding:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
REMOVAL OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORD BOOKS  
KEPT BY THE REGISTER OF DEED FOR  
THE PURPOSE OF REPAIR, RESTORATION  
AND REBINDING**

WHEREAS, NCGS 132-7 provides that books of public records should be copied or repaired, renovated or rebound, if worn, mutilated, damaged or difficult to read; and

WHEREAS, there is identified certain books of public records maintained by the Register of Deeds in need of repair, restoration and rebinding; and

WHEREAS, **Kofile, Inc.** is under contract to provide repair, restoration and rebinding of those certain books of public records.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR PERQUIMANS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, that:

Section 1. The Register of Deeds is authorized to remove or cause to be removed to the care and custody of **Kofile, Inc.** for repair, restoration and rebinding the following books of public records:

Real Estate Book A

Section 2. The books of public records listed in Section 1 of this resolution may remain in the care and custody of **Kofile, Inc.** for the length of time required to repair, restore and rebind them.

Section 3. This resolution is effective upon its adoption.  
 ADOPTED the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2024.

Wallace Nelson, Chairman  
 Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

**RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES & INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

- A. **Recognition of Employees’ Years of Service with the County:** Beginning June 1, 2022, the Board will recognize the employees who have been working with the County for 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. years. This month, the Board recognized the following employees:

Employee Name	Department	Employee Job Title	No. of Years	Effective Date
John Downum, Jr.	Recreation Department	Athletic Program Supervisor	5 years	07/01/2024*
Robert Smith	Water Department	Water Technician I	5 years	07/01/2024
Julie Solesbee	Emergency Services	Assistant Emergency Services Director	5 years	07/01/2024
Heather Miller	EMS	EMS Shift Supervisor/Paramedic	10 years	07/01/2024
David Murray	Sheriff’s Office	Sergeant of SRO’s	15 years	07/01/2024
<b>*Mr. Downum, Jr. was unable to attend tonight’s meeting due to All-Star Tournaments, but County Manager Heath will present him with his certificate &amp; gift earlier.</b>				

Each one of the employees thanked the Board and said they would be working for Perquimans County for more years to come. The Board congratulated them and thanked them for their service.

- B. **Introduction of New Employee:** The following new employees were scheduled to be introduced tonight but were unable to attend. They will be introduced at a later date:

Department Head	Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Effective Date
Angela Jordan, Social Services Director	Crystal Bowe	IMC I working against IMC II	06/01/2024
Angela Jordan, Social Services Director	Jalisa Montague	IMC I working against IMC II	06/01/2024

**BILL JENNINGS, TAX ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Jennings updated the Board on the County’s collection rate through June, 2024 which was .97248. He also updated the Board on the revaluation. The Reval Company has finished and have left the County. They will be available if any problems arise.

**COMMISSIONER’S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Commissioners’ concerns/committee report given.

**UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **Broadband Update:** Mr. Heath updated the Board on the Broadband grant application. He said that Perquimans County did receive the third round of the Broadband grants in the amount of \$3.4 million. This will reach 588 locations in the county. The county match will be approximately \$250,000. Mr. Heath distributed a copy of a map showing the locations of where these 588 locations would be in the county. The total of the three grants is \$11.4 million. With this last grant award, most of the homes in Perquimans County will have access to 1 gig speed internet service.
- **Marine Industrial Park Update:** Mr. Heath said that, later in the meeting, he had listed the Perquimans Marine Industrial Park Lease Guidelines. This is for information only because what he proposes is to discuss this document along with changes to our Animal Control Ordinance and our Solid Waste Ordinance at one of our future Work Sessions.
- **Ribbon Cutting:** County Manager Heath informed the Board that there will be a ribbon cutting at the Board of Elections Building on July 17, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. All are invited to attend.
- **Access to Highway 17 South Convenience Site:** Several of the Board members had express concerns about the access to the Highway 17 South Convenience Site. The complaint was that it has been blocked by trucks. After research had been done, they discussed the matter with the Duck Thru and the Health Department and they agreed to mark that entrance for the convenience site only.

**BOARD VACANCIES**

The following Boards have vacant seats that the Board needs to fill:

1. **Community Advisory Committee:** Mr. Heath reported that there have been no new applications received for this Board. We still need three more members. We will continue to place the ad on the County website.
2. **Senior Tar Heel Legislature Delegate & Alternate:** Mr. Heath reported that, last month, the Board appointed Mr. Thomas St. John as the Perquimans County’s Senior Tarheel Delegate. We still need to appoint an alternate in case he is unable to attend the meeting. We also need to have a member to be appointed to the Senior Tarheel Regional Legislature Advisory Board. We will continue to advertise these appointments on the County website.
3. **Recreation Advisory Board – New Hope Representative:** Earlier in the meeting, the Board accepted the resignation of Chad Nixon, the New Hope Representative on the Recreation Advisory Committee. Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, has reviewed our Volunteer Applications and did not find anyone that requested to serve on the Recreation Advisory Committee that is not already serving on the Committee. The individual will need to be from the New Hope area. Chairman Nelson asked the Board and the public to provide a name for this position. They will need to complete the Statement of Interest to Serve and return it to Mary Hunnicutt.

**PERQUIMANS MARINE INDUSTRIAL PARK LEASE GUIDELINES**

This item was discussed under County Manager Heath updates. This was for information only. No action was taken.

**DOWNTOWN HERTFORD COMMITTEE (FORMERLY HISTORIC HERTFORD, INC.) APPOINTMENT**

County Manager Heath presented a copy of an e-mail received from Janice Cole, Hertford Town Manager, requesting that the Board remove John Lassiter as the County’s representative on the Downtown Hertford Committee (formerly Historic Hertford, Inc.), and replace him with Kathy Treiber. A copy of her Statement of Interest to Serve was included in the Agenda Packets. On motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by James W. Ward, the Board unanimously approved Ms. Cole’s request and appointed Kathy Treiber to complete John Lassiter’s three-year term on the Hertford Committee.

**VOTING DELEGATES**

Chairman Nelson stated that they needed to appoint the Voting Delegates for the NCACC Annual Conference on August 8-10, 2024. At this time, Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, reported that Commissioners Nelson, Woodard, Corprew, and Ward were planning to attend the NCACC Annual Conference. Chairman Nelson stated that he would not be eligible to serve as our delegate since he is on the NCACC Board of Trustees. Commissioner Corprew made a motion to appoint Charles Woodard as our Voting Delegate to the NCACC Annual Conference. The motion was seconded by T. Kyle Jones and the Board unanimously approved appointing Charles Woodard as our Voting Delegate to the NCACC Conference. We now need an alternate Voting Delegate. T. Kyle Jones made a motion to appoint Tim Corprew as our alternate Voting Delegate. Charles Woodard seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Tim Corprew as our alternate Voting Delegate.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF KROGER OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

In their packets, a letter from John Stein, NC Attorney General, was enclosed providing an update on the Opioid Settlement and requesting action by our Board to join the Kroger opioid settlement and to approve a related agreement called the Second Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds ("SAAF-2"). The deadline for these actions is August 12, 2024. He is requesting the Board to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF PERQUIMANS AUTHORIZING  
EXECUTION OF KROGER OPIOID SETTLEMENT AND APPROVING  
THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS**

- WHEREAS**, the opioid overdose epidemic has taken the lives of more than 37,000 North Carolinians since 2000; and
- WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the opioid overdose crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and
- WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the total economic burden of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and
- WHEREAS**, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, pharmaceutical distribution companies, and chain drug stores to hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and
- WHEREAS**, a settlement has been reached in litigation against the Kroger Co. ("Kroger") as well as its subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, and directors named in the Kroger Settlement; and
- WHEREAS**, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Second Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds (SAAF-2) to provide for the equitable distribution of the proceeds of these settlements; and
- WHEREAS**, by joining the settlements and approving the SAAF-2, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and
- WHEREAS**, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Perquimans County and its residents, to sign onto the settlements and SAAF-2 and demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid overdose crisis, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state and Perquimans County to help abate the harm; and
- WHEREAS**, the SAAF-2 directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid overdose epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County hereby authorizes the County Manager or County Attorney to execute all documents necessary to enter into opioid settlement agreements with Kroger, to execute the SAAF-2, and to provide such documents to Rubris, the Implementation Administrator.

Adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman  
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

**SEAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

On motion made by Timothy J. Corprew, seconded by James W. Ward, the Board unanimously approved the above Resolution. County Manager Heath stated that the adoption of this resolution should add about \$38,059 to our share of the Opioid Settlement Funds.

**PERSONNEL MATTER**

County Manager Heath explained that we received this one personnel matter (resignation) after the Agenda Packets were distributed. On motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by Timothy J. Corprew, the following personnel matter (resignation) was unanimously approved by the Board:

Department	Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Effective Date
Sheriff's Office	James Michael Burkett, Jr.	Part-Time Certified Deputy	06/28/2024

**SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES**

County Manager Heath reported that the Board adopted a resolution on April 1, 2024 proclaiming the following vehicle as surplus equipment and to proceed to sell it on GovDeals. The bid period for the following surplus items with GovDeals closed today at 11:00 a.m. On motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Timothy J. Corprew, the Board approved the following sale of the surplus vehicle:

BUYER	ITEM	DATE SURPLUSED	START BID	SOLD AMOUNT
Henry Reyes	2016 Dodge Charger, VIN # 2C3CDXAT0GH228691	4/1/2024	\$500	\$3,093.75

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INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comment was made:

➤ Robert Smirlock made the following comments:

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, I presented information to this board stating that the revenue neutral rate included as part of this year’s budget was incorrect. The response by the county manager was that the state mandated rate formula was used.

Since that meeting, I have researched the statute as well as contacted the Local Government Commission in order to fully understand this rate calculation. The LGC was very helpful, including sending me a spreadsheet to calculate this rate.

Using budget data from the county website for the past eight years, I calculated the rate using this spreadsheet. The results show an average annual growth rate of 1.6%, creating a revenue-neutral rate of 46.5 cents per \$100. This is shown on page one of the handout.

I also prepared a second sheet. This page shows what the growth rate would have to be for the past eight years in order to justify the revenue-neutral rate of 49.7 cents as stated by the county manager. The average ANNUAL growth rate would have had to have been 8.5% each year, or in other words a total growth of 68% in the tax base over the last 8 years. There are no numbers, budgeted or audited, that comes even close to this rate of growth.

I make this offer. I would be happy to meet anyone from the county finance office to go over these calculations so it can be shown how the county arrived at their rate. If I am wrong somehow, I will come back to this board and offer an apology. However, if I’m correct, I ask that the budget ordinance be amended to reflect the proper revenue-neutral rate. This is allowed by statute since the ACTUAL tax rate would not be changed, just the calculated revenue neutral rate.

I very much would like to resolve this issue in this manner, since it involves less public embarrassment for the party who is wrong – be it me or the county. However, if you decide to decline this offer, I will be sending this information to the NC Office of the State Auditor.

The intent of the revenue-neutral rate statute is specifically designed to show the taxpayer how much taxes are being increased without a reassessment having taken place. There is a large difference between the county’s stated 4.5% tax increase and my calculations at 12%. I hope this board will share my interest in showing what the true increase actually is.

Ronald Smirlock [rsmirlock@gmail.com](mailto:rsmirlock@gmail.com) (252) 404-1071

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned around 7:25 p.m. on motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by Timothy J. Corprew and unanimously approved by the Board.

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Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

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Clerk to the Board

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