
REGULAR MEETING

December 1, 2014

6:55 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, December 1, 2014, at 6:50 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair Edward R. Muzzulin, Vice Chairman
Benjamin Hobbs Kyle Jones
Matthew Peeler Tammy Miller-White

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Heath, County Manager Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board
Will Crowe, County Attorney

After the Chair called the meeting to order, Commissioner Hobbs led in prayer and the Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Cole said that the first item of business was to hold a public hearing. Since the advertisement of the Public Hearing stated that the Public Hearing would start at 7:00, the Chair waited to open the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Iberdrola/Perquimans Amendment to Economic Development Agreement

Chair Cole opened the Public Hearing stating that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive citizens' comments to consider an amendment to certain provisions of an existing economic development agreement between the County and Iberdrola dated April 25, 2011. There were thirty-three (33) people present. The Chair recognized Craig Poff, Director of Business Development for Iberdrola Renewables, who made his request to extend their economic development agreement end date originally approved on April 25, 2011 to December 31, 2017 because they will not be able to make the investment deadline of December 31, 2015. He also asked to adjust the table to reflect a small change in the tax rate as it applies to the lower costs of the wind turbine equipment. There is an adjustment to Exhibit A of the Agreement. In summary, they are asking to extend the investment deadline to December 31, 2017, lower the minimum investment to \$100 million, and adjust the table and dates throughout the Agreement. Chair Cole asked if there were any questions from the Board. The following questions were made:

- **Matthew Peeler:** Mr. Peeler stated that Mr. Poff said that North Carolina was not as competitive as other states. He wanted to know whether or not we have come closer since 2011. Mr. Poff said that this is what was considered when requesting this amendment to the Agreement. He does feel that North Carolina has become within their range and feels that it does place North Carolina in a favorable light to have these wind farms placed in North Carolina.
- **Matthew Peeler:** The original agreement had about 68 turbines so how many are we looking at now. Mr. Poff said that they did not necessary speak to the number of turbines. The initial investment was around \$240 million. The full project was estimated to be \$600 million. We all know that this project is split between Pasquotank and Perquimans Counties. Due to a variety of permitting, economic and other consideration, they want to leave some flexibility to allow for the fact that demand may not be as strong in 2017. That is why they are reducing the minimum investment of the project by about half. Mr. Peeler asked again what an estimate would be for the number of turbines. Mr. Poff said that in order for it to be economically feasible they would not proceed with less than 30 turbines plus the infrastructure which would house the maintenance and operations buildings and the substation infrastructure on the power line that goes from Winfall to Suffolk, VA.
- **Edward R. Muzzulin:** How many turbines did we have in the original Agreement? Mr. Poff said that he was sorry but did not have that information but would estimate it to be 150 between the two counties. Mr. Poff said that he would forward that information to Mr. Muzzulin.
- **Janice McKenzie Cole:** Ms. Cole asked Mr. Poff if he was asking Pasquotank County to do the same thing. He said that he was heading there as soon as he finished with this meeting.
- **Kyle Jones:** Mr. Jones asked Mr. Poff to repeat what he said about the revenue being the highest. Mr. Poff said that, in 2011, they were talking about the numbers at that time, built to its fullest size which was at 300 megawatts and the net taxes would be the larger than the six largest taxpayers in Perquimans County combined at that time. Even now, he thinks that they will still be largest taxpayer in the County if not be larger than the top two largest taxpayers in Perquimans County combined.
- **Matthew Peeler:** Mr. Peeler asked if the \$100 million figure was for the entire facility or just Perquimans County. Mr. Poff said that it was for Perquimans County. The infrastructure is where the major investment is which is in Perquimans County.

Chair Cole asked if anyone had signed up to speak. Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, provided her with the sign up sheet showing four people who signed up. The following comments/questions were made from the Public:

- **Wade Pierce:** Mr. Pierce said that he represented the farmers in the area around the project. He said that they are having problems with wildlife damage to their crops. Currently, they have seen \$10,000 to \$15,000 profit loss over the past three years. He further stated that he had approached Mr. Poff asking for assistance with this problem and to give some consideration to the local farmers. Commissioner Hobbs asked why they cannot hunt on the property. Mr. Pierce said that the people cannot hunt because Mr. Poff made an agreement with one property owner that the only way that the landowner would allow Iberdrola cross his land was to stop hunting from a hunt club that used to hunt on the Iberdrola property. Mr. Pierce has made a phone call to Mr. Poff but nothing happened. Stan Winslow has also contacted Mr. Poff with no action.
- **Matt Winslow:** Mr. Winslow read a letter from Stan Winslow, owner of Tidewater Agronomics, which explained the problem with wildlife that affects their research trials in that area. Mr. Stan Winslow encouraged Weyerhaeuser and Iberdrola to open up the property again for hunting to assist with the wildlife problem that they are experiencing now. Mr. Matt Winslow said that windmills have other negative effects. This is an agricultural community and there has been some research done on agriculture that supports this. He has recently talked to Mr. John Droz, Jr. that recently led a charge to keep windmills out of Carteret County. If you have to have government funds to operate, then you are standing on one leg. This funding that Mr. Poff has asked for and the backing of the federal government to complete this project then it can't be good for Perquimans County. Chair Cole asked Mr. Winslow if farming has been subsidized by the federal government. Mr. Winslow said that it has. Mr. Peeler asked if they had any studies on affected wildlife other than deer, like bats. Mr. Winslow said that it has and that on an average the windmills kill 10,000 to 14,000 a year. The bats save the farmers \$74 per acre in pesticides each year. Mr. Peeler asked if he knew how the bats die. Mr. Peeler gave a report on a study of what happens to the bats when they come in contact with the wind turbine. Chair Cole said that they would have further discussion on this matter later in the meeting.
- **Kevin Ambrose:** Mr. Ambrose feels that we all agree that we have an environmental and energy issue and these issues need to be settled in a scientific way. Any new alternative source of energy needs to have a comprehensive economic, environmental and technical study done by the proponents. This will determine if this new source of energy will be equal to or better than our current source of power. If it isn't equal or better, then we do not need to waste time and energy on it. For more information on this process, you can go to Energy Presentation Info where an independent scientist will explain it all. Before the County proceeds with this project, the County needs to have all the information.
- **Thomas Copeland:** Mr. Copeland voiced his areas of concern: (1) Has an impact study been made for this project and (2) What benefits do the citizens of Perquimans County receive from this project. He said that it has been three years since this project was approved. He has seen no progress from this project yet he has seen good progress for solar energy throughout the County in about a third of the time. He has noticed that a couple of test towers have been moved which was only about a half mile from the original spot. As a taxpayer, is our money being spent wisely or is this just a ploy to use up part of a large grant. Is the system working for the people of the community or for someone else outside the state getting fat off this money?

Chair Cole asked for a response from Mr. Poff. Commissioner Hobbs asked Mr. Poff if he stopped the hunting. Mr. Poff said that they have granted hunting to a small number of hunters under certain conditions. Mr.

Poff said that in a conversation with Officer Beardsley, NC Wildlife, there were a number of hunters poaching in that area for the last couple of years. Because of these problems, Mr. Poff said that Iberdrola and Weyerhaeuser stopped the hunting. He has heard from several people in that area that have contacted him complaining about the wildlife in their area. He has referred them to Officer Beardsley. Mr. Hobbs said that obviously there needs to be some conversation made between these people and Mr. Poff. Chair Cole summarized the situation: this is Weyerhaeuser property that you have purchased the hunting rights to. Mr. Poff said that they have leased the wind rights to the property for the entire project and leased the hunting rights to the Weyerhaeuser property. Prior to Mr. Poff leasing the property, did their hunting club lease the hunting rights for the property. Yes, the Four Mile Desert Hunt Club leased the property for hunting prior to Mr. Poff leasing it. There are about 55 people paying to join the club plus several honorary members of 65 or 70 years of age. Mr. Poff said that several from the hunt club have been granted permission to hunt. Commissioner Muzzulin asked how many. Mr. Poff said five. Mr. Muzzulin also asked if the farmers could take care of the wildlife. Mr. Poff said that he was not an expert in NC Wildlife laws but he does understand that farmers do have the right to protect their property from wildlife damage. Commissioner Hobbs said that he would like to see the number increase. Mr. Hobbs said that the Board is discussing the incentive package tonight and maybe we need to make this a part of the incentive package. Mr. Poff said that he did not know what he could or could not agree to tonight. This economic development grant is necessary to put this project in good standing in this competitive project. Messing with this may hinder the competitive nature of this wind farm project. Mr. Poff said that he would be willing to work with anyone and speak with anyone. Chair Cole asked who has the authority. Mr. Poff said that Vice President Rany Raviv at Mr. Poff's recommendation and administration. She further asked if there were 40 people that asked to hunt, would Mr. Raviv be willing to approve it. Mr. Poff further explained that this was a trespassing problem before and since discontinuing the hunting, there have been no problems with surrounding land owners. Commissioner Jones asked what the conditions were to allow them to hunt. Mr. Poff could not remember all them but he did remember that they could not come within 300 feet of property unless you have permission from adjacent property owner; comply with all Wildlife Resource Laws; and not to hunt with dogs that would run on other people's property.

Chair Cole asked if anyone else had something else to add. The following comments/questions were made:

- **Wade Pierce:** Mr. Pierce stated that earlier Mr. Poff said that he granted anyone that asked to hunt on the property permission to do so. Then he said only five people asked and four were approved and one was not. He did not understand why the fifth individual was not approved. Chair Cole said that Mr. Poff explained that the individual had been cited for trespassing before. He has talked with the members of the Four Mile Desert Hunt Club and was told that they rent property from property owners all along the Weyerhaeuser property except one and that is Jason Winslow. Jason is not a farmer and does not seem to care about the damage to the farmer's crops. Chair Cole said that, because things were becoming more personal in nature, we need to move on. He just asked the Commissioners to consider their problem.
- **Matthew Peeler:** Mr. Peeler wanted to ask a couple more questions. He understands that Mr. Poff's company owns wind farms all over the country and wanted to know if he has had problems like this with hunting before. Mr. Poff said that he could not really answer that question. Did the trespassing concerns occur before the lease was signed or after the lease was signed? Mr. Poff said that they occurred before. Were the trespassers part of the hunt club or not? Mr. Poff said that he personally did not know.

Chair Cole stated that action would be taken at a later time in the Agenda and closed the public hearing at 7:40 p.m. and proceeded with the regular meeting.

AGENDA

On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda as amended.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were considered to be routine and were unanimously approved on motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** November 3, 2014 Regular Meeting & November 15, 2014 Special Called Meeting
2. **Tax Refund & Release Approvals:**

PERQUIMANS COUNTY TAX REFUND:

Muholland, Francis M.----- \$170.26
 Vehicle was sold. Eleven months refund. Abstract #0022451457.

PERQUIMANS COUNTY TAX RELEASES:

Mizelle, Alvin & Jean----- \$312.40
 Incorrect square footage. Assessment correction. Account #261130.
Bechiom, Jr., Aron C.----- \$231.69
 Active Duty Military. Account #8059455.

3. **Personnel Matters:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Jonathan Nixon	Emergency Services Director	Appointment	72/16	\$60,345	12/15/2014
Robert Elliott	Water Tech I	Appointment	58/2	\$23,159	12/8/2014

4. **Step & Merit Increases:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Susan Chaney	Director	79/6	64,348	12/1/2014
Eric Tilley	Sheriff	75/12	62,464	12/1/2014
Robin Gieseke	IMC II	63/6	31,818	12/1/2014
Nicole Hunter	Office Assistant III	57/4	23,269	12/1/2014
James Grosjean	EMT-I	66/2	32,933	12/1/2014
Robert Farrar	Deputy Sheriff (Certified)	65/6	34,745	12/1/2014
Preston Ward, Jr.	Deputy Sheriff (Certified)	65/6	34,745	12/1/2014

5. **Board Appointments:**

NAME	BOARD	ACTION	TERM	EFFECTIVE DATE
Wallace Nelson	Planning Board (elected Commissioner)	Replacement		12/1/2014
Tammy Miller-White	Albemarle Commission (no longer a Commissioner)	Replacement		12/1/2014
Dianne Layden	Board of Adjustment – Alternate	Resignation		11/13/2014
Parnell, Brian	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Bonner, Greg	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Brittingham, Richard	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Cartwright, Michael	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Appointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Chaney, Susan	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Cole, Janice	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Copeland, Crystal	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Forlines, Craig	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Appointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
NAME	BOARD	ACTION	TERM	EFFECTIVE DATE

Lafon, David	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Lawrence, Grady	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Madry, Patty	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Nixon, Jonathan	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Palmer, Cordell	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Ponte, Tom	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Smith, Lewis	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Smith, Tim	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Spruill, Mary	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Stoop, Ashley	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Value, Jason	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
VanDyyn, T. Gwen	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Williams, Peter	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Winslow, Jarvis	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	1/1/2015
Winslow, Harry	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Resignation		1/1/2015
Bielski, Jim	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Resignation		1/1/2015

5. Budget Amendments:

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 10
GENERAL FUNDS

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-430-031	Salaries (Officers)		5,850
10-430-060	Group Insurance	5,850	
EXPLANATION: To budget group insurance for new elections supervisor.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 10
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
45-399-000	Fund Balance Appropriated	3,250	
45-682-142	Marketing	3,250	
EXPLANATION: To budget funds to pay for Perquimans County brochure.			

DONNA WINBORNE, DOUGLAS HOLLOWELL, CPA

Copies of the Draft FY 2013-2014 Audit were given to the Commissioners prior to tonight's meeting. Ms. Winborne reviewed several items within the audit. Ms. Winborne said that the audit has been forwarded to Local Government Commission but she has not received their stamp of approval. Once she gets the final stamp of approval, she will provide copies of the audit to Sharon to distribute to the Board. Ms. Winborne said that she has kept records over the last seven years and the County's Fund Balance has increased every year which is very good. After reviewing the audit with the Board, Ms. Winborne asked if anyone had any questions. After thanking Sharon Ward and Tracy Mathews for their assistance in preparing the audit, Ms. Winborne collected the draft audit copies. Chair Cole also thanked Ms. Ward and Ms. Mathews.

HOWARD WILLIAMS, RECREATION DIRECTOR

Mr. Williams presented the annual report from the Recreation Department. He said that there has been an increase in usage and he was very happy with the way that things have been going. The Board thanked him for his service.

CATHY DAVISON, ALBEMARLE COMMISSION

Ms. Davison introduced herself and gave a little background of where she came from. She then thanked County Manager Heath and Commissioner Miller-White for working with them regarding repairs to their building. She then presented an annual report to the Board. She is encouraging the Albemarle Commission to get involved in the programs through the Workforce Development and Economic Development in the Regional. They are holding their first Regional meeting on Tuesday at the College of the Albemarle with the ten county Economic Developers and County Managers. Ms. Davison stated that they offer a Revolving Loan Fund program which is the gap funding for small businesses. They are trying to get the word out that the Commission can award a business \$10,000 per one-person hired. The maximum amount would be \$150,000. Commissioner Muzzulin asked Ms. Davison who is representing Perquimans County at this Regional Meeting for Economic Development Plan. Ms. Davison said that Frank Heath and Dave Goss were representing Perquimans County.

FY 2013-14 AUDIT

Finance Officer, Sharon Ward, asked the Chair if the Board was going to take action on the audit before swearing in the new Commissioners. On motion made by Benjamin C. Hobbs, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved the FY 2013-14 Audit pending approval from Local Government Commission.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Cole asked if there were any Commissioner's Concerns or Committee Reports. The following reports were made:

- **Commissioner Hobbs:** Mr. Hobbs said that his son, Matt, went through the Winterthur Program and received a Master in Early American Culture. His undergraduate was at Princeton. His son's thesis is entitled Complex Networks in Colonial Northeastern North Carolina. This thesis was about a desk that was made in Perquimans County for Thomas White. Commissioner Hobbs said that it is one of the best histories for that time period. His son gave the County permission to place this on the County's website for people to read. County Manager Heath said that it will be placed under County Information under the Local Links category.

UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **Clearing & Snagging – Little River:** County Manager Heath reported that Perquimans County received \$10,000 for clearing & snagging from NC Soil & Water for the Little River Project. The State would match up to \$5,000 if the County would contribute a match. Pasquotank also received \$10,000. We will be working jointly with this project. Mr. Heath said that we could wait and see after bids are received.
- **Golden Leaf Grant:** Mr. Heath filed the required progress report for the Golden Leaf Grant Project. He said that a completion date would be around mid to late 2015.

- **Single Family Rehab Program:** Mr. Heath stated that they are still looking to identify properties that would qualify to receive assistance through this grant program. If the Commissioners have any one that would qualify, please let him know.
- **Insurance Commissioner Goodwin:** Mr. Goodwin came to Winfall to meet with local authorities and public on November 14th. Commissioner Muzzulin and County Manager Heath attended the meeting. He addressed information on insurance claim filings and how they prepare reports on storm damage and how it relates to Perquimans County and how they determine the insurance rates.
- **EMS Peer Review:** At their meeting this week, Mr. Heath said that they reported that 1.4% of their calls had greater than ten minutes in response time. He thanked Tammy Miller-White for faithfully serving on that committee.
- **EMS:** EMS Staff and County Manager Heath have met with several companies to look at new software for patient care reports that are available.
- **Board of Adjustment:** The Board of Adjustment met on November 20th and approved the set back variance request from David Wright.
- **Rescue Squad:** The Rescue Squad has provided their financial reports to Mr. Heath. He has reviewed it and everything looks in order. They have their 501C3 approved retroactively to 2011.
- **Tour of ROTHF Facility:** Mr. Heath did take a tour of the ROTHF Facility on November 7th. The lady from the Department of Navy will be doing presentations at Pasquotank County and Gates County. She will be in Pasquotank County on January 12th. Mr. Heath said that, since she was going to be in this area, he would like to see if she could meet with our Board. More information will be coming in the near future. Chair Cole said that she feels that it would be good for her to meet with the Board.

APPOINTMENT: ADULT CARE HOME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On motion made by Tammy Miller-White, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously appointed Ernestine Simpson to replace Hattie Sharpe on the Adult Care Home Advisory Committee. Her initial term will be for one year effective December 1, 2014.

REINSTATEMENT OF SALARY: SHERIFF

A motion was made by Benjamin C. Hobbs, seconded by Tammy Miller-White and duly passed to reinstate the Sheriff's salary to \$62,464 (Grade 75, Step 12) following the General Election in which the Sheriff ran unopposed. This action is taken in compliance with General Statute 153A-92. Motion carried.

IBERDROLA/PERQUIMANS AMENDMENT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Commissioner Muzzulin said that he feels that the Board needs to twist their arm about the deer. Commissioner Hobbs asked if there was a time limit. County Manager Heath said that Mr. Poff would like it done tonight. Chair Cole said that the current Agreement expires on December 31, 2015. Commissioner Hobbs said that he did not know if the deer has anything to do with the incentive package but he feels that some type of agreement needs to be made. He asked Mr. Pierce if they came to an agreement. Mr. Pierce said that they did not because Mr. Poff had to leave to attend the meeting in Pasquotank County. County Manager Heath asked Mr. Pierce if he was ever able to harvest any deer off the property. Mr. Pierce said that he does not do much deer hunting. He could get a DMAP Permit and kill the deer and leave them but, with all the families that are going hungry that would eat deer meat, he feels that it would be a waste. Commissioner Hobbs asked Sheriff Eric Tilley if there was a problem. Mr. Tilley said that he had not thought about it but, since hearing this information tonight, he realizes why he has seen a good bit of wildlife in his yard. If they are not hunting, then the wildlife would scatter throughout the community and not just affecting the farmers. Chair Cole feels that there are some behind the scene things going on to maintain this project. She understands that some or one property owner has made this a part of the lease agreement. She further feels that it is a dispute between property owner and hunting club. To what extent the Board insists upon them being more flexible about allowing hunting on the property, the Board may need to consider the whole project. Commissioner Miller-White also said that said that they need time to resolve the issue since Mr. Poff was surprised about the situation. She also said that they need to find out what conditions caused the original problems with the hunt club activities. Mr. Pierce said that the problem actually started when the landowner did not like the fact that Weyerhaeuser owns a path all around the landowner's farm. The hunters could go up the path and get their dogs before the dogs even got on the landowner's farm. Wildlife Officer Beardsley could testify that the landowner killed several of the hunter's dogs. Chair Cole said that it is not as simple as it sounds and that the Board needs to be careful about how they use their pressure and authority because there may be more to this than meets the eye. Chair Cole said that the Board can table the matter and have a Special Called Meeting prior to their regular Work Session on December 15th. Edward R. Muzzulin made a motion to table action on this request until their Special Called Meeting on December 15th. The motion was seconded by Kyle Jones. Commissioner Peeler expressed a concern that after doing research on these wind turbines there are sound concerns that impacts people. He attended a meeting on wind farms recently. Chair Cole said that these issues were already reviewed and discussed prior to approval in 2011. Some of the Commissioners even visited a site in Pennsylvania. Commissioner Hobbs said that the project has been approved and that the only issue on the table now is the economic incentives. County Manager Heath agreed. Sharon Ward said that the project is dropping from \$240 million to \$100 million which is a big difference. What Mr. Peeler was talking about are the sounds that you cannot hear – the 20 hertz and below sound. These low frequency sounds could impact the community. Chair Cole said that his comments were beyond the scope of the motion that is on the floor at this time. She called for a vote. The motion to table the matter until December 15th was unanimously approved by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY WORTH LESS THAN \$30,000

County Manager Heath explained that the County has two pieces of property that we need to declare as surplus. It is the two lpads for our outgoing commissioners. The Board will need to declare them as surplus and allow County Manager Heath to hold a private sale to sell them at market value of \$160. In order to do so, they need to adopt a resolution. Commissioners Hobbs and Miller-White recused themselves from the vote. On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY WORTH LESS THAN \$30,000

WHEREAS, Perquimans County owns certain items of personal property that have become surplus for its current needs; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-266 permits the county to sell such property by private sale, upon authorization by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting and notice to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is convened in a regular meeting;

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PERQUIMANS COUNTY RESOLVES THAT:

1. The Board of Commissioners authorizes the county purchasing agent (County Manager) to sell by private sale the following items of surplus personal property:
2 16GB Ipads, Year 2012 model
2. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall post a notice summarizing this resolution, and no sale may be executed pursuant to this resolution until at least 10 days after the day the notice is posted.

Adopted December 1, 2014.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

A notice will have to be posted for ten days before the transfer of property.

HERTFORD S-BRIDGE

Commissioner Muzzulin expressed the following concerns with regard to the replacement of the Hertford S-Bridge:

In September, the commissioners asked the NCDOT for more information on Alternate "B" and they held an additional hearing on November 13th. I believe it is the role of the commissioners to take a leadership position on the bridge at this time and to get actively engaged. Leadership is what we were elected to do and the community is frustrated, and NCDOT is also tiring of the debate.

To summarize:

With "D" Mod, we will have two hi-rise bridges. The aesthetics of "D — Mod" a 33' Hi-Rise Bridge is visually the worst thing that could be done to the town and is useless when we have bad weather. Neither of these 2 high-rise bridges can be used by EMS and school buses when the wind gets above 40 mph. They would have to go through Belvedere. However, it is the least expensive option and the bridge closure was said to be 15 months.

Alternate "B" is 15' clearance above the water which would be more aesthetically pleasing, EMS and school buses will be able to use it and the 15' clearance will require fewer openings. The cost is much higher for Alternate "B" and the closure time for this option is estimated by NCDOT to be 45 months. I feel this is an over estimate. All one has to do is look at the VDOT project on the Rt-17 at the steel bridge in Virginia to see how quickly a bridge can be built. The other negatives on this option are it does cost more and the operating cost would be a little more. In the future bridge tenders will be a thing of the past. Automation with cameras and remote control will replace bridge tenders. The technology is available now.

Therefore I make a motion that the Perquimans County Commissioners support NCDOT Project R-4467 Bridge Alternate "B".

The motion was seconded by Matthew Peeler. Commissioner Miller-White asked that the direction that they are supposed to be going is to provide the same information about Alternate "B" that they provided for Mod "D". What about Alternate "E"? County Manager Heath feels that sufficient information has been made for each of these options. Commissioner Peeler said that they had the opportunity to ask for information on Alternate "E". He further stated that the Resolution from the Town of Hertford leaned toward Alternate "B" thus making us in line with their feelings. Commissioner Jones said that he would vote for the motion but when it comes down to it NCDOT will do whatever they want to do. The Chair called for the vote. The motion to adopt the following Resolution was unanimously approved by the Board:

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

WHEREAS, the Perquimans County Board of Commissions has discussed the merits and negatives to all the options available to replace the Perquimans County S-Bridge, Project R-4467, and

WHEREAS, after the discussion, the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners feel support Alternate "B" as the option to replace the Perquimans County S-Bridge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners requests that North Carolina Department of Transportation consider this Resolution of Support and use Alternate "B" to replace the Perquimans County S-Bridge.

ADOPTED this the 1st day of December, 2014.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chairman
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES: BENJAMIN C. HOBBS & TAMMY MILLER-WHITE

Chair Cole presented a plaque to Benjamin C. Hobbs for his 16 years of service and Tammy Miller-White for her 12 years of service as Perquimans County Commissioners and thanked them for their years of faithful service. Chair Cole made some personal remarks regarding these Commissioners. Commissioners Miller-White and Hobbs thanked the people of the County for allowing them to serve as a Commissioner. After reviewing some of the highlights while he and Ms. Miller-White were on the Board, Commissioner Hobbs presented a wooden gavel to Chair Cole for use by the Chair of Board of Commissioners.

SWEARING-IN

Todd Tilley, Clerk to Superior Court, gave the Oath of Office to newly-elected Commissioners Fondella A. Leigh, Edward R. Muzzulin, and Wallace E. Nelson.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIR

Will Crowe, County Attorney, acting as Temporary Chairman of the meeting, opened the floor for nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board. Kyle Jones nominated Janice McKenzie Cole as Chair and Edward R. Muzzulin as Vice Chairman. Wallace Nelson seconded the motion. Mr. Crowe closed the nominations for Chair and for Vice Chairman. The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Janice McKenzie Cole as Chair and Edward R. Muzzulin, Vice Chairman, of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. Ms. Cole, as Chair, proceeded with the new business of the meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chair Cole said that they needed to appoint individuals to the following Boards:

1. **Planning Board**: With the election of Wallace Nelson to the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Nelson will no longer be able to serve on the Planning Board. Therefore, the Board will need to appoint someone to complete his term which is due to expire on November 30, 2016. Board action is being requested.
2. **Albemarle Commission**: Since Tammy Miller-White is no longer a Commissioner, the Board will need to appoint her replacement on the Albemarle Commission Board effective December 1, 2014. Board action is being requested.
3. **Northeast Workforce Development Board**: Mr. Steve Magaro resigned from the Northeast Workforce Development Board effective October 12, 2014. The Board will need to appoint someone to complete his term which expires on June 30, 2016. Board action is being requested.
4. **Board of Adjustments**: Johnny Corprew and Dianne Layden have resigned as Alternates to the Board of Adjustment effective October 13, 2014 and November 13, 2014, respectively. The Board will need to appointment someone to complete their terms: Johnny Corprew – September 30, 2017 and Dianne Layden – October 31, 2016. Board action is being requested.
5. **Alternate – Rural Transportation Advisory Committee**: We received a letter from Angela Welsh, RPO Planning Director, requesting the Board to appoint an alternate to the RTAC to assist with having a quorum for their meetings. Board action is being requested.

On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Kyle Jones, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Fondella A. Leigh to the Albemarle Commission and Matthew Peeler as the Alternate on the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee. The other appointments will be made next month along with the new Commissioners appointments.

BANK RESOLUTION/SIGNATURE CARD/USE OF CHAIRMAN'S STAMP

Since there was no change in the Chair, this matter was tabled until January, 2015 when we will be making a change in Finance Officer in February.

VOTING DELEGATE – LEGISLATIVE GOALS CONFERENCE

The Legislative Goals Conference is being held in Raleigh on January 15-16, 2015. At the present time, the only person attending this conference is Commissioner Peeler. On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Kyle Jones, the Board unanimously appointed Matthew Peeler to be the Voting Delegate at the Legislative Goals Conference in January, 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon S. Ward asked if the Wind Turbine Study is available to the public. Chair Cole asked Mary Hunnicutt to provide Ms. Ward a copy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. on motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

Clerk to the Board