
REGULAR MEETING

March 2, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 7:00 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
 Kyle Jones Fondella Leigh
 Wallace Nelson Matthew Peeler

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 Nelson led in prayer and the Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Cole said that the first item of business was to hold two public hearings.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CDBG Close Out Public Hearing

Chair Cole opened the first Public Hearing stating that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive citizen's comments concerning the CDBG funds the county received to assist LMI households in the 2012 Scattered Site Housing Project funded in the amount of \$225,000 through the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance. Activities that were completed under the grant program included clearance, relocation, emergency repairs and housing rehabilitation. CDBG funds were used to fund the entire project. There were sixteen (16) people present. The Chair recognized Carolyn Morris who administered the program. Ms. Morris gave an overview of the program and requested that the CDBG project be closed out. Chair Cole closed this public hearing and reopened the next Public Hearing.

Conditional Use Permit Application No CUP-14-08, by Debra Talmadge

Chair Cole reopened the Public Hearing that was continued from last month. She stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive citizens' comments to consider Conditional Use Permit Application No CUP-14-08, by Debra Talmadge, to reopen a Nursing & Convalescent Home and Caretaker's Residence at 114 and 116 Nursing Home Road (SR 1330), respectively, between Old US 17 Road (SR 1367) and Gregory's Lane (SR 1330). There were sixteen (16) people present. The Chair recognized Donna Godfrey who explained that Ms. Talmadge had not provided the Planning Staff with the requested documentation. Therefore, she requested that the Board close this public hearing and they would readvertise when the applicant has all the materials ready. On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved to close this public hearing

Chair Cole asked if there were any further public comments on these public hearings. There being none, Chair Cole closed the Public Hearings and proceeded with the Regular Meeting at 7:05 p.m.

AGENDA

On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh, 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 Wallace E. Nelson.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** February 2, 2015 Regular Meeting
2. **Tax Release/Refund Approvals:**

PERQUIMANS COUNTY TAX RELEASE:

Haskett, Jeffery----- \$121.44 (year 2014)
 Correction in square footage – difference in value \$27,600. Account Number: 356782

PERQUIMANS COUNTY TAX REFUNDS:

Haskett, Jeffery----- \$121.44 (year 2013)
 Correction in square footage – difference in value \$27,600. Account Number: 356782
 Haskett, Jeffery----- \$121.44 (year 2012)
 Correction in square footage – difference in value \$27,600. Account Number: 356782
 Haskett, Jeffery----- \$121.44 (year 2011)
 Correction in square footage – difference in value \$27,600. Account Number: 356782

3. **Personnel Matters:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Lauren Jones	Part-Time Fill-In for Board of Elections	Appointment		\$8.83/hr.	2/11/2015
Larry Chappell	Part-Time EMT	Appointment	63/4	\$14.57/hr.	2/1/2015
Gay Price	Full-Time Telecommunicator	Appointment	60/1	\$24,672	3/1/2015
James Farrar	Part-Time Fill-In Telecommunicator	Appointment	60/1	\$11/86/hr.	3/1/2015
Jonathan T. Nixon	Part-Time Fill-In Telecommunicator	Appointment	60/1	\$11.86/hr.	3/1/2015
Dale Hunter	EMS Shift Supervisor	Appointment	68/4	\$37,762	3/1/2015
Esther L. Jordan	Part-Time Telecommunicator	Reclassification	60/2	\$12.16/hr.	3/1/2015

4. **Merit Increases:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Sabrina Patrick	IMC II	63/1	\$28,154	3/1/2015
Kelvin Roberson	Water Plant Operator	64/15	\$41,399	3/1/2015

5. **Budget Amendments:**

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 17
 GENERAL FUNDS**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-420-060	Co. Mgr. - Group Insurance		2,910
10-420-061	Retirees Hospitalization	2,910	
EXPLANATION: To budget for retiree (Sharon Ward) hospitalization insurance for FY 2014-2015.			

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18
WATER FUNDS**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
35-660-334	Water Plant - Sedimentation Control		30,000
35-660-740	Capital Outlay	30,000	
EXPLANATION: To cover cost of truck replacement due to unexpected maintenance in FY 2014-2015.			

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 19
GENERAL FUNDS**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-610-021	DSS - HCCBG		2,731
10-348-000	State Grant - DSS		2,731
EXPLANATION: To budget exact amount of State Funds for FY 2014-15.			

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE: BRENDA NEWBERN

Chair Cole presented a plaque to Brenda Newbern who retired from the Perquimans County Social Services Department after 34 years. Ms. Cole thanked her for her service. Ms. Newbern thanked the Board.

PRESENTATIONS

The following new employee was introduced to the Board:

- **Office Assistant III:** Susan Chaney, Social Services Director, introduced Krystal Dozier-Bass, Office Assistant III. Chair Cole welcomed her to Perquimans County.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Chair Cole:** Chair Cole stated that she is still serving on the STEM Board. The purpose of this school was to try to make sure that we have the work force that could satisfy all the jobs for the region. It seems to be moving rather quickly. Elizabeth City State University has agreed to house the school on their campus. The program is on a lottery system so that any child would be eligible to apply. The school will start with the 8th and 9th grades and then gradually expand to grades 6 to 12. The more students we have to apply from Perquimans County the better odds we have of getting Perquimans County students into the school. She encourages the residents of Perquimans County to take advantage of this opportunity. This would prepare students for some entry level jobs in the field of aerospace industry as well as other science and technology fields as they continue their education. This will assist those students who have a lot of potential but are not being challenged and have begun to lose interest in continuing their education. She will keep the Board informed of how it is going. She asked if there are any questions. Commissioner Peeler asked that, if you are accepted into the program, do you remain until you complete the program. Ms. Cole said that you would continue. He further asked about their siblings. Ms. Cole said that, under the State Law, it does allow siblings to come into the system. The support is coming from New Schools Program.

KEITH HAMM, MOBILE CRISIS MANAGEMENT

Mr. Hamm, Mobile Crisis Supervisor for the Albemarle Area, presented information on Mobile Crisis Management. He stated that what they do is respond to individuals in the community in an effort to deescalate their crisis, develop appropriate strategies for symptom reduction. This is done at no expense to the client. He let the Board know that, in 2014, they responded to 40 individuals in Perquimans County and 82% were diverted from inpatient care and incarceration. Of those individuals, five requests came from Law Enforcement and three clients were referred direction from schools in Perquimans County. He just wanted to let the Board know what they are doing and how they are assisting law enforcement, school system, and social services. He asked if there were any questions from the Board. Commissioner Peeler asked if he interacts with our 911 Center. Mr. Hamm said that he did and that he would be willing to talk to them further. Commissioner Nelson asked if this is a private entity and where did their funding come from. Mr. Hamm said that East Carolina Behavioral Health provides some financial assistance but their funds mainly come through Medicaid or private insurance claims. Mr. Nelson further asked where they divert these individuals to. Mr. Hamm said that they are usually taken to the emergency room and then to an inpatient facility.

SUSAN CHANEY, SOCIAL SERVICES

Ms. Chaney said that she did not have an official monthly report but did update the Board on the NCFAS System.

UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **Boat Ramp Project:** County Manager Heath reported that the County passed the permit hurdles. The total contract price of the project will be over a half a million dollars. Because of that, the County will have to go through the formal contract process through the State Construction Office. N.C. Wildlife is the lead agency for this project since they are building the boat ramp. That being said, they are currently setting up this project through the State Construction Office. He has talked with the project engineer who said that she was going to try to go out for bids early this summer. They are still looking at getting it completed this year. With regard to the Golden Leaf side, he has provided all the proper reports to them and that we are still on schedule.
- **Clean Up along US Highway 17:** County Manager Heath and Building Inspector Parrish looked at 20 properties along US Highway 17 to see if they could begin a process of cleaning them up by using our existing regulations and authorities. There is one piece of property that is owned by NCDOT close to the Chowan/Perquimans County line that has a metal warehouse on the property that is in disrepair. He is still waiting for a response from them regarding cleaning up that property.
- **Facebook Page:** County Manager Heath explained that we combatted the bad weather and notified the Board that a Facebook page has been established for Perquimans County. It is facebook.com/Perquimans County, NC. He further explained that the staff used this medium to notify personnel and public about closings. He encouraged everyone to visit the site.
- **Personnel Policy:** We have finalized our new Personnel Policy and have forwarded to the consultant and hope to have it presented to the Board for comments in the near future.
- **Budget Time:** Mr. Heath said that the Department Heads will be notified that their budget requests will be due at the end of March. After that, he will set up the Budget meetings to begin in April. Commissioner Peeler asked if all the departments were in good numbers for this fiscal year. Mr. Heath said that they were.
- **Marine Park:** Commissioner Muzzulin asked Mr. Heath if they have been able to obtain the matching grant funds. Mr. Heath said that they are looking for funding but none had been acquired at this time. Bob Peele is the lead person in working on this funding.

PLANNING BOARD ITEMS

Donna Godfrey, County Planner, presented the following item for Board action:

Request for Extension – The Moorings at Albemarle: Ms. Godfrey presented the following letter from Howard Nichols requesting an extension on The Moorings at Albemarle:

E C C

February 16, 2015

Perquimans County Board of Commissioners
 Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
 P.O Box 45
 Hertford, NC 27944

Re: The Moorings at Albemarle — Yearly Update for 2014

Chair Cole,

We're requesting this letter to be placed on the March 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting agenda. This will serve as an update to the County describing our progress at the "Moorings of the Albemarle" (*Moorings*) Development during 2014.

The *Moorings* gained approval by the Board of Commissioners for the Condition Use Permit No. CUD-10-01(a) on January 3, 2011. Per conditions of our approval, the County requested that we provide an update to the County for our project status during the past year. Please find them outlined below.

- Preliminary Design of the Wastewater Treatment and Disposal System began in 2014. Steve Janowski, PE of J.S. Janowski Engineering, P.A. headed up this design.
- Steven Barry of Aqua, Inc. (Wilson, NC) has been retained as a Consultant for the Advantex Waste Water Treatment System.
- As you're aware, our site has provided us with several challenges and questions. We've been working with Jon Risgaard, NCDENR-DWQ in the Raleigh office to discuss and help plan a Waste Water System that's best for our site. Our team met with Jon back in the summer and again in Washington Regional Office this past September.
- Steve Janowski, PE is now employed with River's & Associates, PA (Greenville, NC) is currently preparing to make our first submittal to the State related to the Waste Water Treatment System.
- Afterwards, we'll begin to prepare construction plans related to the Erosion & Sedimentation Control Plan and the Water Distribution Plan; both of which are required to be approved by the State prior to submittal of the Preliminary Plat to the County.

Please advise if we need to attend the Commissioners meeting, otherwise we trust that this update will suffice in providing the County with the required information you need. Feel free to give me a call @ (252) 327-9623 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Howard Nichols

Howard Nichols, Owner

ECC, LLC
 4142 JC Galloway Road, Greenville, NC 27834
 Office (252) 327.9623 • www.ECC-ENC.com

Ms. Godfrey stated that Mr. Nichols has asked for a year extension for CUD-10-01(a). Commissioner Peeler asked if the wastewater system was an issue causing the delay last year. Ms. Godfrey said that it was and explained what Mr. Nichols has accomplished over the last year. On motion made by Wallace E. Nelson, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved to extend CUD-10-01(a) for another year.

CDBG CLOSE OUT

A public hearing was held earlier in the evening when Ms. Morris gave an overview of what projects had been completed with these funds. Mr. & Mrs. Langston wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Board for relocating their home. There were three items that needed to be considered at tonight's meeting:

- **Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan:** On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved the following Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan:

Perquimans County
 Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan

In compliance with Section 104(D) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, Perquimans County adopts the following Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan.

Perquimans County, hereby affirms that it shall comply with the following requirements of Section 104(D) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

All occupied or vacant and occupiable low-to moderate-income dwelling units demolished or converted to a use other than low-to moderate-income housing as a result of activities assisted under their CDBG Scattered Site Grant Project will be replaced within three years of such demolition or conversion.

All lower income persons meeting the definition of displaced person as described in Paragraphs 7-9 and 7-11 of HUD Handbook 1378, *Tenant Assistant, Relocation and Real Property Acquisition*, that are displaced as a result of demolition or conversion activities in the above-mentioned program shall receive assistance as described in 24 CFR 570.606 (b)(2).

Perquimans County further pledges that prior to obligating or expending funds that will directly result in the demolition or conversion of occupied or vacant occupiable low income housing, the county will make public the following information in writing:

1. A description of the proposed activity;
2. The general location on a map and the approximate number of dwelling units by size that will be demolished or converted to a use other than low to moderate income housing as a direct result of activities financed by the above referenced grant program;
3. A time schedule for the commencement and completion of the demolition or conversion;
4. The general location a map and the approximate number of dwelling units by size that will be provided as replacement dwelling units;
5. The source of funding and a time schedule for the provision of replacement dwelling units.

This plan is adopted this 2nd day of March, 2015

ATTEST:

 Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

 Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
 Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

- **Addendum to CDBG Contract for Professional Services:** On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin, the Board unanimously approved the following Addendum to CDBG Contract for Professional Services:

**ADDENDUM TO
 CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
 PERQUIMANS COUNTY
 CDBG SCATTERED SITE PROJECT #12-C-2426**

This Contract Addendum to CDBG SSH Administrative contract entered into the 1st day of July, 2013 by and between the County of Perquimans, a municipal corporation (hereinafter called the "County"), and the Carolyn B. Morris, (herein after called the "Consultant").

WHEREAS, the COUNTY was awarded funding in the amount of \$225,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance for the implementation of the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Project to pay Consultant the contracted amount of \$29,500 to complete project within two years; (flat fee of \$3,500 to complete application and a flat fee of \$3,500 for Environmental Review was included in the contracted amount of \$29,500). A total of \$22,500 (10% of total project) was established in the application for Planning and Administration; and an hourly rate of \$20.00 per hour (substantially lower than

previous rate of \$95.00 per hour for projects prior to this one) identified in the proposal for administrative services and grant preparation;

WHEREAS, the COUNTY continued to engage the Consultant to render technical assistance and administrative services in connection with amending the County's 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Project pursuant to current Funding Agreement with the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties do mutually agree that the contract will be revised to indicate that compensation for additional hours working on amending the project and bringing it to a completion before the two-year period will not exceed \$8,142.50 (of the funds remaining after all expenditures are completed) and submission of all documents for close out of the project to the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance,

As officers and representatives of Perquimans County, we, the undersigned, have read and fully agree to this Addendum, and become a party to the full implementation of this program.

PERQUIMANS COUNTY

ATTEST

By: _____
Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

By: _____
Mary Hunnicutt

Date: _____

CAROLYN B. MORRIS

ATTEST

By: _____
Carolyn B. Morris

By: _____
Frank Heath, County Manager

Date: _____

- **Close Out CDBG Project:** On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler, the Board unanimously approved to close out the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Project. Chair Cole thanked Ms. Morris for all she had done. Ms. Morris thanked the County for allowing her to work with them on these projects.

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CWMTF GRANT APPLICATION: LITTLE RIVER WATERSHED INNOVATIVE STORMWATER PROJECT

County Manager Heath reported that we had received a letter from Albemarle RC&D requesting that the Board adopted a letter of support for the CWMTF Grant application for \$150,000 that they are filing for the Little River Watershed Innovative Stormwater Project. Wallace E. Nelson made a motion to approve the following letter of support for the CSMTF Application for \$150,000 for the Little River Watershed Innovative Stormwater Project. The motion was seconded by Fondella Leigh. Chair Cole asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Commissioner Peeler asked if the CWMTF does invasive removal and do we need to worry about the hydrilla plant? He wanted to make sure that we did not need to hold off on these funds to use for this project. Mr. Heath said that he felt that it was under control on the Chowan River and has not encroached this way as of yet. The motion was unanimously approved to forward the following letter of support:

March 2, 2015

Mr. Bryan Gossage, Executive Director
Clean Water Management Trust Fund
1651 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1651

Dear Mr. Gossage:

I am writing to offer my support for the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council's application to the Innovative Stormwater fund to improve water quality in the Little River watershed of Perquimans and Pasquotank counties. The 86,000 acre watershed was once rich in biodiversity with key anadromous fish and shellfish areas, and swamp forests critical to support native fish and wildlife, mitigate flooding, and protect water quality. The Albemarle RC&D Council, Perquimans and Pasquotank Counties, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), universities, local community groups, and state and federal agencies are working together to restore the Little River watershed, which includes eight miles of Impaired river.

The proposed innovative stormwater management project will be the first in the state to take the eastern NC in-stream wetland system from a research level to an operational level at a watershed scale. While the stormwater system itself has been researched for a number of years, moving it to an operational level at a watershed scale is innovative and key to improving and protecting water quality. Most of the canals that flow into the Little River are on private lands, and constructing in-stream wetlands along these privately owned canals is critical for effectively managing stormwater in the watershed. The impact of agriculture on water quality of the Little River watershed is typical to watersheds in eastern NC, and the proposed innovative stormwater management system on private lands could be replicated throughout the region.

We value our substantial natural resources in northeastern NC and recognize that they help attract and keep new residents and businesses. The proposed innovative stormwater project will be critical for showing farmers and other residents how they can help protect and improve water quality while improving drainage.

Thank you for considering the Albemarle RC&D Council's application for an innovative stormwater project. If funded, it will help residents in the Little River watershed, and in other watersheds in eastern NC.

Sincerely yours,

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

JMC/mh

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR AN ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR THE AREA AUTHORITY SERVING PERQUIMANS COUNTY

County Manager Heath deferred the presentation to Chair Cole who explained the makeup of the alternative governance structure for the area authority serving Perquimans County. This is in reference to the merger of CoastalCare and East Carolina Behavioral Health. Commissioner Peeler has a concern regarding the fact that there is only one commissioner serving on this governing board. He feels that we should have more commissioners on this authority. Chair Cole explained how this all had transpired. On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin, the Board unanimously approved the following Resolution:

Resolution of Support for an Alternative Governance Structure for the Area Authority serving Perquimans County

WHEREAS, in accordance with N. C. General Statute § 122C-115 (cl), the Area Board of CoastalCare, an Area Authority serving Brunswick, Carteret, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties and the Area Board of East Carolina Behavioral Health, an Area Authority serving Beaufort, Bettie, Camden, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties, have entered into an agreement to consolidate their agencies into a twenty-four county Area Authority serving all previously named counties; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services has approved this consolidation, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, N. C. General Statute § 122C-118.1, which specifies the composition of an Area Authority Board, permits an alternative Area Board structure to be implemented 1) if the total population of the Area Authority catchment area exceeds 1,250,000 and 2) if the counties which comprise the Area Authority agree by resolution to an alternative structure; and

WHEREAS, the total population of the new Area Authority created by the consolidation of CoastalCare and East Carolina Behavioral Health is 1,260,778; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of the twenty-four counties to approve an alternative governance structure for the consolidated Area Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, do hereby approve the structure of the Area Board and the Regional Advisory Boards of the consolidated Area Authority, as outlined below.

To provide a local presence in the counties served and to assure that each county has input into the services received by its residents, the twenty-four county catchment area will have three regions. The regions have been designed to equalize, to the extent possible, the number of counties, population in the region, and overall square mileage of the regions. The three regions and the counties served are:

- Northern Region: Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank and Perquimans Counties.
- Central Region: Beaufort, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Pamlico, Pitt, Tyrell and Washington Counties.
- Southern Region: Brunswick, Carteret, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender Counties.

The counties in each region will appoint two members to the Regional Advisory Board: one county commissioner or designee and another individual who meets the requirements outlined in N. C. G. S. § 122C-118.1 (b). In addition, the Regional Advisory Board will include the Chair or designee of the regional Consumer and Family Advisory Committee. County Commissioner members of the Regional Advisory Boards may serve for as long as they are a commissioner. Other members of the Regional Advisory Board may serve for up to three, three year consecutive terms.

The primary functions of the Regional Advisory Board will be to advise the Area Authority Chief Executive Officer on the evaluation and hiring of a Regional Director; recommending priorities for expenditure of state and county funds for development of the annual budget; determining local priorities for inclusion in the overall strategic plan; identifying community needs and concerns; monitoring resolution of issues; and monitoring performance at the local level, including access to care, expenditure of service funds, number of consumers served, services delivered, provider network, size and composition, outcomes, and consumer satisfaction.

Each Regional Advisory Board will establish its own bylaws based on local needs, but in compliance with standardized requirements established by the Governing Board for quorums, frequency of meetings, elections of officers, duties of members, committees and committee appointments, and attendance standards. Such bylaws are subject to the approval of the Governing Board.

Each Regional Advisory Board will select four (4) members to serve as the Area Authority Governing Board: one county commissioner, the Consumer and Family Advisory Committee chair or designee, and two other members. In addition, the chair or designee of the Area Authority Network Council shall serve on the Governing Board as a non-voting member. The county commissioner members of the Governing Board shall serve one three year term without consecutive reappointment, so that commissioner representation on the Governing Board will rotate among the counties in each region. The other members of the Governing Board may serve three, three year terms.

The Governing Board's primary responsibilities will include determining policy; strategic planning, including consideration of local priorities as determined by the Regional Advisory Boards; budgets; hiring and evaluations of the Chief Executive Officer; monitoring of deliverables, including overall performance and financial management; government affairs and advocacy; reporting to constituent counties; responding to concerns and feedback from the Regional Advisory Boards; reviewing, revising and approving the Regional Advisory Board bylaws; and all other responsibilities outlined in N. C. law for Area Authority Boards. The Governing Board will develop and adopt bylaws to address its activities in accordance with law.

ADOPTED this 2nd March, 2015.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

NORTHEAST ALBEMARLE GROUP HEALTH BUDGET ASSESSMENT

County Manager Heath explained that he had mentioned at the meeting last month that the County may have to do a budget assessment for our group health insurance. This morning, Mr. Heath and Chair Cole attended a meeting of the group health insurance members. He further explained that our employee health insurance is a self-funded pool made up of Pasquotank, Perquimans, Albemarle Regional Health Services and several other small non-voting members. There are 736 people, including family coverage, that participate in the plan. As he explained last month, the advantage of this set up is that we control our plan structure and premium rates. This year, unfortunately, we have had a significant increase in high dollar claims throughout the plan (cancers, cardiac, orthopedic). Many of these claims have surpassed the existing stop-loss coverage we have in place. We can prevent these issues next year through plan changes and increases in premiums to participating entities. This year, we have had a shortfall of current claims of around \$950,000. This only involves about 18 individuals that have had high claim numbers. This means that Perquimans County would have to pay a one-time assessment of \$125,918.11 to bring our insurance obligations up to date. Several months ago, we made a payment early to help the cash flow. It looks like that we will unlikely be able to skip June's payment as we hoped. We will have to make the other \$64,000+/- for the June payment. This makes a total of \$190,000 that we will need to transfer from our fund balance. Commissioner Peeler asked when we needed to issue the check. Mr. Heath said that they wanted it within the next 30 days. Unfortunately, this will include Albemarle District Jail. Commissioner Peeler asked about Pettigrew Libraries. Chair Cole said that Pettigrew Libraries will take care of their part. Mr. Muzzulin said that Albemarle District Jail would probably take care of their part also. Mr. Heath assured the Board that there were measures that we can take to help the problem next year. On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Wallace A. Nelson, the Board unanimously approved the following Budget Amendment No. 20:

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 20
GENERAL FUNDS**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-500-540	Insurance & Bonds	190,000	
10-399-000	Fund Balance Appropriated	190,000	
EXPLANATION: To budget Perquimans County's part of Hospitalization Plan deficit for FY 2014-15 as discussed and approved at 3/2 Board Meeting.			

Mr. Heath further explained some areas that they could change to make things fiscally better next year. This included changes in the prescription area. Another reason for the increase is because requirements that the Affordable Health Care Act requires insurance companies to cover. Commissioner Nelson further explained why the costs for generic drugs are more expensive. He asked Mr. Heath if this 736 pool would be able to sustain the changing health care programs. Mr. Heath

understands it and he said that they are trying to increase this number. Commissioner Peeler asked if we would have an opportunity to move everyone to Affordable Health Care. Chair Cole said that this was discussed at the meeting but that we have a couple of years before we will be required to do so. Mr. Heath feels that we should just wait another year and make the plan changes that he mentioned here tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nancy Theodore lives at 103 Phelps Street in Hertford. She was coming before the Board to discuss the replacement of the Hertford S-Bridge. Even after the Town Councils of Hertford and Winfall and the Perquimans County Board of Commissioner passed a Resolution supporting Alternate B, a swing bridge, to replace the aging S-Bridge, The Perquimans Weekly reported last week that NCDOT is continuing to move forward with the Alternative D-Mod. She said that the State Historic Preservation Office has determined that the Alternate D-Mod will have an adverse effect on the Hertford National Register Historic District. She provided a copy of their determination to the Clerk to the Board. Ms. Theodore presented a list of these adverse effects to the Hertford Town Council on February 9th. She asked the Board of Commissioners what the County's position is given the fact that NCDOT is moving forward with Alternate D-Mod and the fact that the Alternate D-Mod will adversely affect the Historic District. Commissioner Muzzulin asked if the same letter addressed the adverse effects of Alternative B. Ms. Theodore said that it does. Commissioner Peeler said that, in his communication with NCDOT, he has learned that they feel that, because they are removing the Hertford S-Bridge, all alternatives will have an adverse effect on the Historical District. He further stated that D-Mod does not take into consideration the Town of Hertford's desire for the new bridge to preserve the view that we now have. He said that he would be glad to support a resolution not supporting D-Mod. No action was taken on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Matthew Peeler.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

Clerk to the Board

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