

Surry County Board of Commissioners
Meeting of January 4, 2021

The Surry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m., January 4, 2021. The meeting was held in the Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Dobson, N.C., virtually via Zoom and YouTube.

Board members present for the meeting were Chairman Mark Marion, Vice-Chairman Bill Goins, Commissioner Eddie Harris, Commissioner Van Tucker and Commissioner Larry Johnson. Commissioners Harris and Tucker attended virtually.

Others present for the meeting, at various times, were:
Chris Knopf, County Manager
Sandy Snow, Assistant County Manager
Rhonda Nixon, Finance Officer
Ed Woltz, County Attorney
Martha Brintle, MIS Director
Johnny Easter, Development Services Director
Todd Tucker, Surry County Economic Development Partnership
Patrick Jones, MIS
Nathan Walls, Assistant to the County Manager
Dr. Travis Reeves, Surry County Schools Superintendent
Robert Draughn, Surry County Schools
Joan Sherif, Northwestern Regional Library
Pat Gwyn, Northwestern Regional Library
Tyler Wilmoth, Northwestern Regional Library
News Media

Mr. Woltz, Ms. Brintle, Mr. Jones and the News Media attended virtually.

Chairman Marion called the meeting to order. Commissioner Goins delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Manager Chris Knopf requested that the Board add budget amendments 3 and 4 to the consent agenda, which the Board agreed upon by unanimous consensus.

Chairman Marion requested the Board review and approve the agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 4, 2021 meeting agenda.

Chairman Marion requested the Board consider the minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting as presented. Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

Chairman Marion requested the Board consider the consent agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Chairman Marion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Requests from the County Manager:

- Approve a Mimosa Lane one-lot subdivision, Parcel ID # 4071-00-25-6830, owned by Claude Allen Haynes, Jr.
- Approve budget amendment #3 to the FY 2020-2021 budget. The amendment addresses rolling forward unspent grant funds for

departments, adds budget for new grants in Emergency Management and Soil & Water Conservation, adds budget for previously approved Board items, rolls forward and moves to a special revenue fund unspent COVID-19 relief funds and rolls forward school capital outlay funds for projects not yet completed.

					Change #3
The Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the FY2020-2021 Budget Ordinance at their meeting on January 4, 2021.					
ACCOUNT			PREVIOUS		REVISED
CODE		DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHANGE	AMOUNT
GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Governing Body					
1054110	51500	Professional Services	170,000	10,000	180,000
		Increase departmental total	575,543	10,000	585,543
Special Appropriations					
1054198	57446	Armfield Center Capital (NEW)	0	30,000	30,000
		Increase departmental total	351,701	30,000	381,701
Non-Departmental					
1054199	59510	General Fund Contingency	100,000	(51,838)	48,162
		Decrease departmental total	270,000	(51,838)	218,162
Management Information Services					
1054210	52900	Small Equipment	0	7,922	7,922
1054210	53020	Equipment Maintenance	30,503	3,916	34,419
		Increase departmental total	998,521	11,838	1,010,359
County Jail					
1054320	56010	Equipment	0	169,000	169,000
		Increase departmental total	4,371,486	169,000	4,540,486
Emergency Management					
1054330	52010	Supplies & Materials	12,000	12,696	24,696
		Increase departmental total	147,467	12,696	160,163
HSG Dirty Bomb Training					
1054334	51500	Professional Services	0	11,000	11,000
1054334	52010	Supplies & Materials	0	1,500	1,500
		Increase departmental total	0	12,500	12,500
Beehive Field Testing Grant					
1054944	52010	Supplies & Materials	0	4,634	4,634
		Increase departmental total	0	4,634	4,634
Water Resources Development Grant					
1054965	51720	Contracted Services	0	3,000,000	3,000,000
		Increase departmental total	0	3,000,000	3,000,000
Prison Camp Watershed Restoration (NEW)					
1054974	51720	Contracted Services	0	121,200	121,200
		Increase departmental total	0	121,200	121,200
Social Services Admin					

1055312	51720	Contracted Services	0	102,533	102,533
		Increase departmental total	1,023,439	102,533	1,125,972
<u>Canoe Access</u>					
1056131	51720	Contracted Services	0	90,844	90,844
		Increase departmental total	0	90,844	90,844
<u>Transfers</u>					
1059810	59142	Transfer to Special Revenue Fund	0	1,129,668	1,129,668
		Increase departmental total	7,384,393	1,129,668	8,514,061
REVENUE					
1044000	49871	Transfer from Special Revenue Fund	0	169,000	169,000
1044000	49900	Unencumbered Balance	7,641,423	102,533	7,743,956
1044301	42274	Corona Relief Act	0	995,972	995,972
1044304	42272	Cares Act-Provider Relief	0	133,696	133,696
1044330	42300	Emergency Management Grant	28,000	12,696	40,696
1044334	42328	Homeland Security Grant	0	12,500.00	12,500
1044944	43362	Beehive Field Test Grant	0	4,634	4,634
1044965	43364	DWR Grant-Cedar (Camp) Creek	0	500,000	500,000
1044965	43365	DWR Grant-Mitchell River	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
1044965	43366	DWR Grant-Big Elkin Creek	0	1,500,000	1,500,000
1044974	42255	USDA Grant (NEW)	0	90,900	90,900
1044974	43702	NC Soil & Water Conservation Grant (NEW)	0	30,300	30,300
1046131	43701	Duke Energy Grant	0	90,844	90,844
		Increase fund totals.	74,933,952	4,643,075	79,577,027
<u>GENERAL FUND-SHERIFF NARCOTICS</u>					
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>					
1854311	51500	Professional Services	1,000	2,400	3,400
1854311	56020	Equipment-Narcotics	20,000	7,215	27,215
REVENUE					
1844311	49900	Unencumbered Balance	67,245	9,615	76,860
		Increase fund totals.	67,245	9,615	76,860
<u>GENERAL FUND-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT</u>					
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>					
2554245	59130	Transfer to School Capital Outlay	2,363,425	749,554	3,112,979

REVENUE					
2544245	49900	Unencumbered Balance	0	749,554	749,554
		Increase fund totals.	9,533,279	749,554	10,282,833
GENERAL FUND-SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY					
EXPENDITURES					
2755912	57021	Co School-Roofing	350,000	617,848	967,848
2755912	57022	Co School-Chiller	0	61,462	61,462
2755912	57211	Elkin-Chillers	0	112,488	112,488
2755912	57221	MA-Track Repairs	0	79,428	79,428
2755912	57223	MA-MAHS HVAC	0	320,237	320,237
REVENUE					
2745912	49810	Transfer from GF-Cap Imp Fund	2,363,425	749,554	3,112,979
2745912	49900	Unencumbered Balance	0	441,909	441,909
		Increase fund totals.	2,363,425	1,191,463	3,554,888
GRANT PROJECT FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
CARES Act Covid 19 (NEW)					
3854301	51720	Contracted Services	0	41,928	41,928
3854301	52010	Supplies & Materials	0	60,138	60,138
3854301	52900	Small Equipment	0	8,676	8,676
3854301	53025	Software License	0	800	800
3854301	54400	Advertising	0	1,575	1,575
3854301	55020	Rent-Buildings & Equipment	0	6,845	6,845
3854301	56010	Equipment	0	25,521	25,521
3854301	57451	City of Mt. Airy	0	240,991	240,991
3854301	57455	Town of Dobson	0	37,156	37,156
3854301	57456	Town of Pilot Mountain	0	35,383	35,383
3854301	57458	Town of Elkin	0	93,260	93,260
3854301	57940	Vulnerable Population	0	29,467	29,467
3854301	59147	Transfer to General Fund	0	1,807,577	1,807,577
		Increase departmental total	0	2,389,317	2,389,317
CARES Act Provider Relief (NEW)					
3854304	52010	Supplies & Materials	0	21,321	21,321
3854304	56010	Equipment	0	112,475	112,475
		Increase departmental total	0	133,796	133,796
REVENUE					

3844301	42274	Corona Relief Act (NEW)	0	1,393,161	1,393,161
3844301	44910	Interest Earnings (NEW)	0	184	184
3844301	49800	Transfer from General Fund (NEW)	0	995,972	995,972
3844304	44910	Interest Earnings (NEW)	0	100	100
3844304	49800	Transfer from General Fund (NEW)	0	133,696	133,696
		Increase fund totals.	0	2,523,113	2,523,113

- Approve budget amendment #4 to the FY 2020-2021 budget. The amendment adds additional funding received in Health & Nutrition Center programs and reduces funding in two terminated programs.

					Change #4
The Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the FY2020-2021 Budget Ordinance at their meeting on January 4, 2021.					
ACCOUNT			PREVIOUS		REVISED
CODE		DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHANGE	AMOUNT
GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Communicable Disease/STD					
1055121	51010	Salaries & Wages	187,800	151,783	339,583
1055121	52010	Supplies & Materials	4,000	20,000	24,000
1055121	52020	Medical Supplies	7,000	3,000	10,000
1055121	54010	Travel/Training	4,500	500	5,000
1055121	54200	Telephone	3,500	12,000	15,500
1055121	54250	Postage	1,600	7,000	8,600
1055121	54350	Printing	300	4,000	4,300
		Increase departmental total	322,248	198,283	520,531
Yadkin Pregnancy Care Management					
1055150	51010	Salaries & Wages	32,300	(32,300)	0
1055150	51030	Salaries & Wages Part time	29,200	(29,200)	0
1055150	51300	Social Security	3,900	(3,900)	0
1055150	51310	Medicare	900	(900)	0
1055150	51330	Retirement	3,000	(3,000)	0
1055150	51350	Group Insurance	6,400	(6,400)	0
1055150	51500	Professional Services	1,000	(1,000)	0
1055150	52010	Supplies & Materials	1,463	(1,463)	0
1055150	53020	Equipment Maintenance	200	(200)	0
1055150	54010	Travel/Training	3,000	(3,000)	0
1055150	54200	Telephone	3,000	(3,000)	0
1055150	54250	Postage	50	(50)	0
1055150	54350	Printing	50	(50)	0
1055150	55020	Rent Buildings & Equipment	650	(650)	0
1055150	55500	Dues & Subscriptions	500	(500)	0
		Decrease departmental total	85,613	(85,613)	0
Yadkin-Care Coord 4 Children					
1055151	51010	Salaries & Wages	55,300	(55,300)	0

1055151	51020	Longevity	900	(900)	0
1055151	51300	Social Security	3,500	(3,500)	0
1055151	51310	Medicare	900	(900)	0
1055151	51330	Retirement	5,100	(5,100)	0
1055151	51350	Group Insurance	7,800	(7,800)	0
1055151	52010	Supplies & Materials	100	(100)	0
1055151	53020	Equipment Maintenance	100	(100)	0
1055151	54010	Travel/Training	2,000	(2,000)	0
1055151	54250	Postage	50	(50)	0
1055151	54350	Printing	50	(50)	0
1055151	55020	Rent Buildings & Equipment	50	(50)	0
1055151	55500	Dues & Subscriptions	200	(200)	0
		Decrease departmental total	76,050	(76,050)	0
Home Health Grant Programs					
1055155	51720	Contracted Services	269,625	44,042	313,667
1055155	52010	Supplies & Materials	1,000	3,050	4,050
1055155	52020	Medical Supplies	1,000	2,221	3,221
1055155	53020	Equipment Maintenance	0	250	250
1055155	54010	Travel/Training	2,000	300	2,300
1055155	54200	Telephone	1,400	500	1,900
1055155	54250	Postage	1,000	1,000	2,000
1055155	54400	Advertising	0	150	150
1055155	55020	Rent Buildings & Equipment	200	500	700
		Increase departmental total	413,493	52,013	465,506
Child Health Program					
1055163	55500	Dues & Subscriptions	3,300	30,000	33,300
		Increase departmental total	1,289,796	30,000	1,319,796
Supplemental Food Program					
1055167	51010	Salaries & Wages	375,784	27,336	403,120
1055167	52010	Supplies & Materials	11,000	7,198	18,198
1055167	52020	Medical Supplies	15,000	5,684	20,684
1055167	54200	Telephone	6,000	2,472	8,472
1055167	54250	Postage	1,000	1,700	2,700
1055167	54400	Advertising	200	2,500	2,700
		Increase departmental total	683,827	46,890	730,717
Immunization Action Plan					
1055170	51010	Salaries & Wages	102,236	14,878	117,114
1055170	52010	Supplies & Materials	4,000	400	4,400
1055170	52020	Medical Supplies	125,000	4,050	129,050
1055170	55500	Dues & Subscriptions	11,000	3,000	14,000
1055170	56010	Equipment	0	101,053	101,053
		Increase departmental total	309,882	123,381	433,263
Environmental Health					
1055181	55100	Capital Leases	9,800	6,000	15,800
		Increase departmental total	757,836	6,000	763,836
REVENUE					
1045121	42270	Covid 19 Crisis Response	0	198,283	198,283
1045150	42324	NCCN Carryforward	13,213	(13,213)	0
1045150	42386	NC Community Care	72,400	(72,400)	0
1045151	42386	NC Community Care	70,982	(70,982)	0
1045151	43319	Child Service Coordination	5,068	(5,068)	0

1045155	42274	Corona Relief Act (NEW)	0	29,071	29,071
1045155	43322	Chore Service-PTRC	317,193	13,557	330,750
1045155	43395	Caregiver Grant-PTRC	24,889	3,866	28,755
1045155	49900	Unencumbered Balance	0	5,519	5,519
1045163	44154	Cost Settlement	248,750	30,000	278,750
1045167	42372	WIC-CFDA 10.557	316,998	46,890	363,888
1045170	42270	Covid 19 Crisis Response (NEW)	0	4,133	4,133
1045170	42274	Corona Relief Act (NEW)	0	99,920	99,920
1045170	42362	Federal Immunization Action	0	16,078	16,078
1045170	44171	Health Foundation	0	3,250	3,250
1045181	49900	Unencumbered Balance	26,206	6,000	32,206
		Increase fund totals.	79,577,026	294,904	79,871,930

Requests from the Assistant County Manager:

- Approve changing position title District Watershed Technician to District Technician to best fit duties of the position.

Chairman Marion declared the meeting to be an open forum and invited members of the audience to address the Board on any matters of civic concern.

J.T. Henson asked the Board to swiftly pass the draft Chapter 92 public nuisance ordinance that was presented at the December 7, 2020 meeting. He said he has seen a large amount of trash blowing on roads in Surry County. Mr. Henson also said that changes could be made to the ordinance as needed.

Crystal Ritter, of Galax Trail, said she is not in favor of the draft public nuisance ordinance. She said that the ordinance would allow her neighbors to nitpick her actions more. Ms. Ritter said she has not added more animals like her neighbors claimed in recent meetings. She discussed further details regarding the draft public nuisance ordinance and her neighbors.

Jenna Ritter, of Galax Trail, said she disagrees with the draft public nuisance ordinance. She said that one person's waste is another person's composting pile. She also stated that the ordinance won't solve anything and would cause more problems between neighbors.

There being no further comments, Chairman Marion closed the open forum.

Chairman Marion opened a public hearing about a Springfield Road rezoning request from Ronnie Haymore. Mr. Haymore requested that his property be rezoned from Residential General to Rural Agricultural.

Johnny Easter, Development Services Director, told the Board that the Planning Board recommended approval of the rezoning at their December 14, 2020 Planning Board meeting.

Commissioner Tucker said that he likes the Planning Board's recommendation.

Chairman Marion closed the public hearing.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to approve a statement of

consistency for Mr. Haymore's Springfield Road property rezoning request, Tax Parcel ID # 5957-00-34-7307.

Upon motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve rezoning Mr. Haymore's Springfield Road property, Tax Parcel ID # 5957-00-34-7307, from Residential General to Rural Agricultural.

Northwestern Regional Library staff members provided library updates and stated their hope for increased funding in the FY 2021-2022 Surry County budget.

Pat Gwyn said she is retiring January 30 after 49 years of service, with approximately 30 years in Surry County. She discussed the great changes she has seen in libraries during her career. Ms. Gwyn said libraries are important for job hunters and training and that this became popular after Surry County textile mill closures. She said senior citizens in nursing homes are now receiving book drop-offs and eBooks have become a frequently used service. Ms. Gwyn said she cherished her time with the library system and the Board thanked her for her service.

Tyler Wilmoth discussed how libraries have played a positive role in his life, from childhood to college to now working for a library system. He discussed how libraries impact people, stating the popularity of the library system's digital collection, including eBooks.

Joan Sherif provided the Board Northwestern Regional Library annual report brochures. The brochures provide numbers detailing how library visits and collection use were down in 2020 due to COVID-19 closures and impacts. However, numbers show that digital materials usage and program attendance increased substantially. Ms. Sherif discussed the importance of future funding from Surry County, how the library system still wants to be involved in the Surry 250 celebration planned for 2021 and helping get the word out about the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. She also said the library system is holding a fundraiser.

Chairman Marion thanked the library staff for their update and said that the Board hopes for better funding news for libraries in FY 2021-2022.

The Annual Report brochure is saved on the Government Center shared drive.

Mr. Knopf presented a Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (YVEDDI) Notification of Grant Application to the Board. The document was presented formally only so the Board was notified of YVEDDI's grant application.

Mr. Knopf presented a request to purchase two replacement Welcome to Surry County DOT signs. The new signs would replace signs that were damaged or stolen.

Mr. Knopf said staff would follow up to clarify what happened to them and where they were located. He also said that the \$3,785 to pay for the new signs would come from general fund contingency.

The Board expressed an interest in Surry 250 decals, celebrating the County's 250th anniversary, to increase in size on the two new signs. The Board requested staff ask DOT to make the decals larger

and to bring back more information on the best possible sign locations at a future meeting.

Mr. Knopf pulled the item on the Yadkin Valley Regional Bicycle Plan from the agenda.

Mr. Knopf briefed the Board on COVID-19 relief funds. He said any future COVID-19-related expenditures would need to be general fund expenditures.

Mr. Knopf requested that the Board add a Rawley Avenue surplus property bid item and a Surry County Schools Facility Needs Survey item.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to add the two items to the agenda.

Assistant to the County Manager Nathan Walls presented the Rawley Avenue surplus property bid item. He said that a citizen had made a \$100,000 offer, which upset a previous bid of \$70,000. Mr. Walls read the tax and appraisal values of the property.

The Board discussed with County Attorney Ed Woltz what the options were for the bid offer. Mr. Woltz said you can accept the bid or reject it and select a realtor going forward to market the property for sell.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Harris, the Board voted unanimously to reject the \$100,000 offer, have the County Attorney bring realtor suggestions for selection and list the property with the chosen realtor.

Surry County Schools Superintendent Dr. Travis Reeves presented the Surry County Schools Facility Needs Survey, which is required every five years by N.C. General Statutes.

Dr. Reeves detailed the contents of the survey, including 0-5 year and 6-10 year needs for school facilities. Renovation costs were included in the document. He said the last page of the document explains that the required signature from the Board chairman does not signify a funding commitment to the recommended renovations.

Dr. Reeves recommended to the Board, when asked, that any future renovation projects listed in the document should be piecemealed to be cost effective.

The Board discussed with Robert Draughn, of Surry County Schools, the average per square foot price for construction, which is approximately \$250.

Commissioner Harris requested a tour of current Surry County Schools projects with Bill Powell.

The Board reached a unanimous consensus to provide Chairman Marion's signature on the Surry County Schools Facility Needs Survey document.

The Facility Needs Survey is saved on the Government Center shared drive.

Mr. Walls brought appointments and reappointments for County boards and committees to the Board.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Chairman Marion, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Druery Reed DeVore as 2021 Chief of Staff on the Northern Regional Hospital Board of Trustees. Commissioner Johnson was absent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Harris, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Debbie Wilmoth and Jeanette Hamlin to the Dobson Community Library Board. Commissioner Johnson was absent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Steve Hiatt, Bill Southern, John Shelton, Dale Watson, Daryl Bottoms, Dr. Travis Reeves and Dennis Barnette to the Opioid Response Advisory Council. Commissioner Johnson was absent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to transition Jerry Sawyers from the Board of Health's temporary vacant Optometry position to the Public Member vacancy.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Rusty Slate as a Board of County Commissioners appointee to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

Upon motion of Chairman Marion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Joseph Mickey, Scott Reynolds, Mark Tucker and Jay Yopp to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

Upon motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Shirley Key and Donna Collins to the Surry County Nursing Home Committee.

Under General County Business, the Board discussed options for the draft Chapter 92 public nuisance ordinance. Mr. Woltz discussed the possibility of a mediator being used to settle differences between property owners and said that a public nuisance ordinance would help.

Commissioners Johnson and Harris discussed their want for more enforcement of ordinances that are already adopted.

There was discussion about the Board Retreat being a good venue to discuss public nuisance ordinance options. Board members directed Mr. Knopf and Mr. Woltz to work with the UNC School of Government on providing a public nuisance ordinance expert to speak either at the Board Retreat or special meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

The Board came out of closed session and resumed regular business.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Harris, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:28 p.m.

Nathan Walls
Clerk to the Board