

- **Commissioner Hoffler:** Mr. Hoffler said that his question is on a different matter than the athletic complex. He asked them if they are still trying to get the fire truck from the Town of Hertford. Mr. Bunch said that he was and that he met with the Hertford Town Council earlier this summer. He requested them to basically give them the fire truck and requested that they eliminate or reduce the tap fee for the Athletic Complex. Their response was for the school to pay \$7,000 for the fire truck which was their normal annual payment and there would be no more payments and there would be no relief on the tap fee for the Athletic Complex.
- **Commissioner Woodard:** Mr. Woodard asked what would happen if the School Board did not receive the lottery funds. Ms. Turner said that they would have to put off doing the budgeted projects because they want to make sure that they have funding for any emergencies which come up during the year. This money will go into the Capital Outlay funds not the Athletic Complex funds. They would put them off until closer to the end of the year so that they would not run out of funds before the projects are completed. She said that, should they get the money, they would begin working on these Capital Outlay projects that need to be done.

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any further questions or comments. There being none, he said that we could do one of two things: (1) take action on this matter tonight or (2) postpone the vote since we received new information tonight and hold a Special Called Meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> or wait until the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to take action. County Manager Heath stated that they could table action tonight or take action on it tonight. It is up to the Board. Commissioner Woodard said that he would be agreeable to table it. Commissioner Jones stated, for him, he did not know what benefit it would be to table action on this. Commissioner Lennon said that he did not think it would be necessary to put it off and made a motion to approve the application for \$146,029 Lottery Funds. Joseph W. Hoffler seconded the motion. The motion died due to a vote of three (3) to three (3) with the vote being as followings: Yeas were Commissioners Lennon, Hoffler, and Woodard and Nays were Commissioners Nelson, Leigh, and Jones.

**APPOINTMENT: THE HIGHWAY 17/64 ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

County Manager Heath explained that the Board appropriated funds in the FY 2019-20 budget to the Highway 17/64 Association. The County has been asked to appoint a representative to their Board of Directors. It can be a commissioner or a non-commissioner. Commissioner Lennon asked how often they met and where did they meet. Mr. Heath stated that he thought it was quarterly and they meet somewhere locally. It was the consensus of the Board to table the matter.

**PETITION: CEDARWOOD VILLAGE**

County Manager Heath explained that Tildon Whitehurst, developer of Cedarwood Village Subdivision, is requesting that NCDOT add the roads in Cedarwood Village to the State Road Maintenance System. On motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by Alan Lennon, the Board unanimously approved to forward the petition to add roads in Cedarwood Village Subdivision to NCDOT State Maintenance System.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following public comments were made:

- **Olga Simpson:** Ms. Simpson reviewed her situation regarding the Single Family Rehab Grant Program and asked the Board for an update on the situation.
- **Mark McDaniels:** Mr. McDaniels stated that he lives next to the Race Track and he wanted to address our Noise Ordinance. He wanted to know if the Board could update our current Noise Ordinance because, whenever he calls about the noise, law enforcement tells them that the current Noise Ordinance is unenforceable because there is no definition of noise limits within the ordinance. He had a copy of Currituck County's Ordinance and it had more limits on noise in it so that it could be enforced. Commissioner Jones made a few comments with regard to problems with enforcing any Noise Ordinance. County Manager Heath made a few comments about equipment to establish noise readings and that Race Tracks in existence of the current Noise Ordinance is exempted from the Ordinance. Chairman Nelson stated that they would take it under advisement.

**CLOSED SESSION: CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY REGARDING A LEGAL MATTER & CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(3), T. Kyle Jones made a motion to go into Closed Session to consult with attorney regarding a legal matter and to approve closed session minutes. The motion was seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Closed Session was adjourned and the Regular Meeting reconvened on motion made by Fondella A. Leigh, seconded by Charles Woodard, and unanimously approved by the Board. No action required from the Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. on motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh.

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Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

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Clerk to the Board

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**WORK SESSION**  
August 19, 2019  
7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a Work Session on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room located on the first floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex.

MEMBERS PRESENT:      Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman                      Fondella A. Leigh, Vice Chair  
   Joseph W. Hoffler    Kyle Jones  
   Alan Lennon    Charles Woodard

MEMBERS ABSENT:      None

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

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

ARCHITECT FOR NEW SOCIAL SERVICES FACILITY

Chairman Nelson recognized Mr. Bill Burgin of Ramsey, Burgin, Smith Architects, who was contracted to prepare the design study for the proposed Social Services Building. While thanking the Board for allowing them to prepare the architectural work, he distributed copies of the drawings that he presented during his PowerPoint presentation. The building will be across from the Perquimans County Senior Center on Harvey Point Road. After reviewing the drawings, he explained the cost to build this building as presented. He stated that the total construction costs for the building would be around \$4.3 million. With the additional costs of furniture, electronics, etc. the total costs would be \$4.7 million. County Manager Heath provided a little history behind the decision to replace the Social Services Building. In FY 2018-19 Budget, funding was included to hire an architect to provide the Board cost estimates to build the proposed Social Services Building. Because this is a Social Services Building, a portion of the costs to replace it will be reimbursable from the State by about 50 to 55% so the County will be looking at about half of these costs. Mr. Heath further stated that Mr. Burgin has met with him, Susan Chaney and Nicole Elliott which has been beneficial in preparing the design he is presenting tonight. There is still room for expansion in the building should that be necessary. Chairman Nelson asked Mr. Burgin how they figure out the size of the building that is needed. Mr. Burgin stated that the State has certain minimum standards that they must comply with and staff input was beneficial too. Chairman Nelson asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Board. Commissioner Lennon asked if Mr. Heath could pull up the site on the computer. Mr. Heath showed the Board the proposed location of the building. Commissioner Leigh asked how this location will affect the clients getting to the building. Ms. Chaney stated that she feels that it might even be better because, at certain times, the traffic is congested at their current site. Commissioner Jones asked about financing of the project. Mr. Heath explained several options. Mr. Jones asked what the time frame was to get the project started. Mr. Heath said that it was ultimately up to this Board but it probably will be within the next couple budget processes. Commissioner Lennon asked how the reimbursements worked. Mr. Heath asked Ms. Chaney to explain the process which she did.

JOSEPH HOFFLER'S CONCERN

Mr. Hoffler asked about how much influence a former Commissioners/Chair has with regard to the vote on the lottery request versus the 100 years of experience in the school system. He also felt that our Board missed an opportunity to resolve the issues from before and begin a better relationship between the two Boards. After discussing whether or not we could discuss the matter during the Work Session, the following comments were made:

- **Commissioner Jones:** Mr. Jones feels that it is a privilege that is offered to former commissioners. Charles Ward came before the Board one time. As a Commissioner, you have the responsibility to vote how you believe. He also said that we have to be careful stating that these requests are for or against the kids.
- **Commissioner Woodard:** Mr. Woodard said that he felt that the School Board will come before them again with a request for repair to a building.
- **Commissioner Lennon:** Mr. Lennon discussed that the only thing that he saw different was that she came as an appointment with a five minute limit versus the public comment section where they have three minutes. He further stated that they need to get things cleaned up and that was his feeling on his vote.
- **Chairman Nelson:** Mr. Nelson said that he had been on the Board of Education for many years and he will always be pre-schools. He looked at the situation that they were able to play football this year at the stadium. It may not have been like they wanted it to be but they still could play football. His concern was that the lottery funds have been spent down over the past few years. Let's slow down on the spending and build up some reserves so, if we have some type of catastrophic event, we would have some money to draw on. This was the reason he voted the way he voted and he did not feel that her comments made any special influence on his decision that night.
- **Commissioner Leigh:** Ms. Leigh said that, before coming to the meeting that night, she was torn with her decision. Once she found out that they could play football, she made her decision before coming to the meeting. She met with a school board member today and it was a very positive conversation. She did not feel that Ms. Cole's comments influenced her decision because she had already decided prior to the meeting and prior to knowing that Ms. Cole was going to be at the meeting.
- **Chairman Nelson:** Mr. Nelson was concerned with the reason for the application.

CHARLES WOODARD'S CONCERN

Mr. Woodard said that he has a concern regarding a health issue in the County. He serves on the Catfish Hunter's ALS Foundation Board and they are trying to see about getting something done regarding research about this problem. He reported that Perquimans County's rate for ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) patients is eight times the national average rate. We have fourteen (14) cases since 1990 and no significant improvements on the disease have been made since Catfish Hunter died of it. He distributed a map to the Board that showed the patients that had or has ALS. There are seven (7) cases within a 2-mile radius of each other. Information has been forwarded to the N.C. Department of Public Health but no action has been taken. The foundation feels that maybe the Board of Commissioners could adopt a Resolution and send it to the Governor and to the Atlanta's Center for Disease Control to see if they could check into this situation. County Manager Heath asked Mr. Woodard if, at the next ALS Foundation Board meeting, they could prepare some bullet points that we could use to prepare the Resolution. Mr. Woodard said that he would ask them to provide them.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Leigh:** Ms. Leigh stated that the Senior Citizens Board met and asked her to request that, instead of renting out the area previously occupied by Janice Cole at the Senior Center, to let the Seniors have it because they need the room. More information to follow.
- **Chairman Nelson:** Mr. Nelson said that next week College of Albemarle is interviewing the final three candidates for their President.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Work Session was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

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Clerk to the Board

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