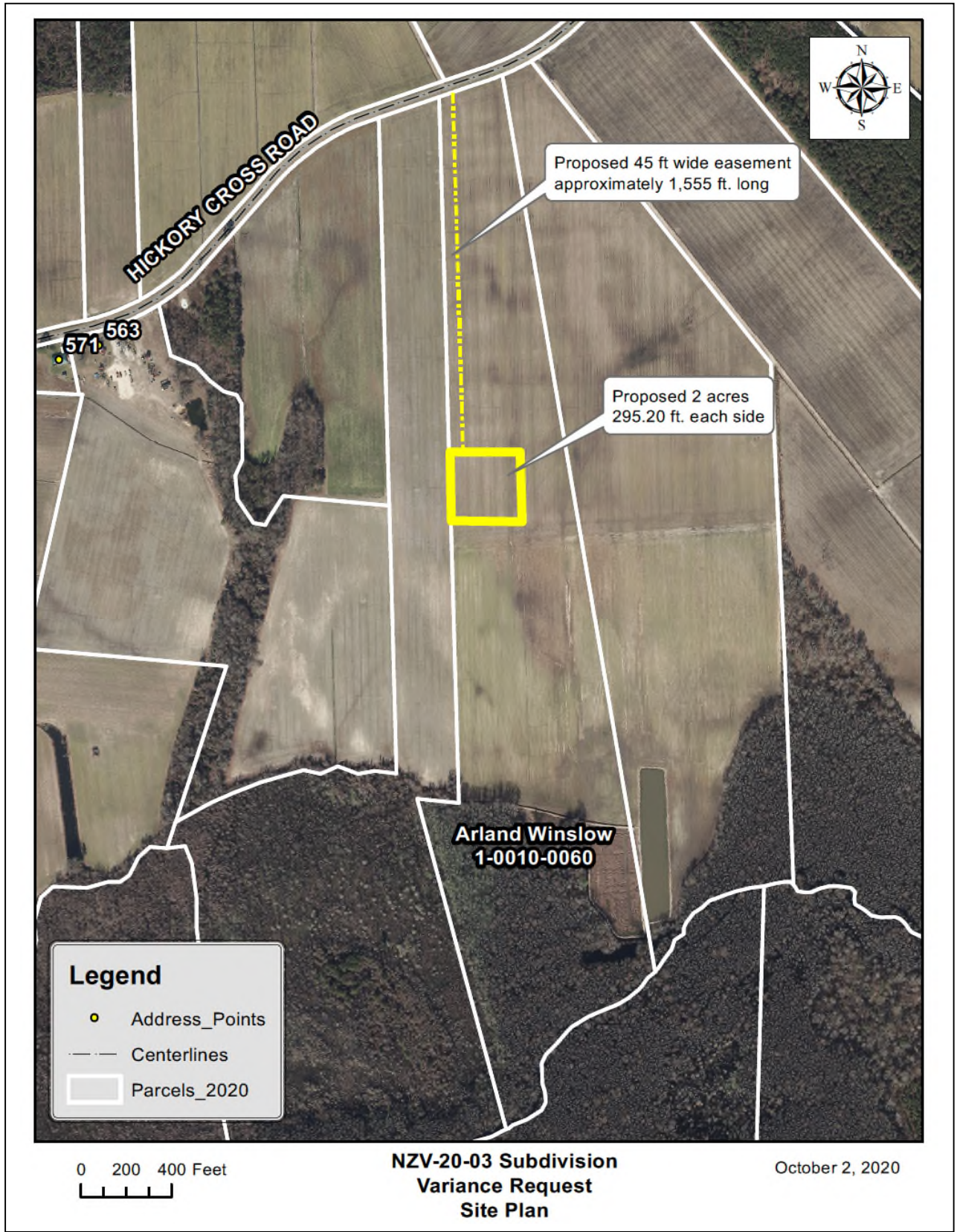


ATTACHMENT B



WORK SESSION
November 16, 2020
7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners Regular Work Session scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. has been **cancelled**.

REGULAR MEETING
December 7, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Special Notice for tonight's meeting: The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners' **REGULAR MEETING** will be held on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. Because this is considered an essential meeting, the public will be able to attend but social distancing will be required. In addition, public comments will be made in person or in writing, which need to be provided to the Clerk to the Board prior to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2020. You may deliver them to her via fax [(252) 426-4034] or e-mail at mhunnicutt@perquimanscountync.gov. If you have any questions, please contact the County Manager's Office at (252) 426-8484.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944. The meeting was moved from 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 T. Kyle Jones
 Alan Lennon Charles Woodard

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nelson. Commissioner Leigh gave the invocation and the Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Chairman Nelson stated that an amended copy of the Agenda was at their seats tonight. Fondella A. Leigh made a motion to approve the Agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Charles Woodard and unanimously approved by the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any items that the Board wished to remove from the Consent Agenda to discuss. There being none, the following items were considered to be routine and were unanimously approved on motion made Joseph W. Hoffler, seconded by Charles Woodard.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of Minutes: November 2, 2020 Regular Meeting and November 16, 2020 Work Session *(cancelled)*
2. **Tax Release Approvals:**
Bowen, Stephen & Phyllis ----- \$147.50
 Disabled exemption. Account No. 357866
Bryant, Timothy ----- \$499.73
 Moved to a lease hold card. Account No. 117496
Tax Refund Approvals:
Christensen, John ----- \$150.88
 Sold vehicle; 9-month refund. Account No. 56327859
Walsh, Reginald ----- \$159.46
 Incorrect assessment on boat. Account No. 265660

3. **Personnel Matters:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Sam Barrow	Human Resource Director/Special Projects Coordinator	Job Reclassification	72/8	\$53,723	01/01/2021
Caitlyn Colson	PT/FI Paramedic / Supervisor	Appointment	70/2	\$20.43/hr.	11/24/2020
Caitlyn Colson	PT/FI Paramedic	Appointment	68/2	\$18.71/hr.	11/24/2020
Robin Gieseke	PT Temporary Low Income Energy Assistance Worker	Appointment	n/g	\$13.00/hr.	11/16/2020
Denise Stallings	PT Temporary Low Income Energy Assistance Worker	Appointment	n/g	\$13.00/hr.	11/16/2020
Jessica Arthur	Full-Time Paramedic	Promotion	68/1	\$37,966	12/01/2020
Jessica Velvin	Full-Time Paramedic	Resignation			10/31/2020
Nicole Elliott	Administrative Officer I	Extended Leave Without Pay*			10/19/2020
Alexander Ross	Part-Time/Fill-In AEMT	Appointment	66/1	\$16.72/hr.	12/01/2020
Rebecca Cullipher	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Appointment	63/1	\$14.65/hr.	12/01/2020
Tabitha Martin	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Removed from Roster			11/06/2020
Theodore Bowen	Part-Time/Fill-In AEMT	Removed from Roster			11/06/2020
Tiffany Haynes	Certified P/T Telecommunicator	Resignation			11/04/2020
Tiffany Haynes	Certified PT/FI Telecommunicator	Appointment	62/2	\$14.37/hr.	11/04/2020

**Effective 10/19/2020, Ms. Elliott was approved to work up to 4 hours per day until re-evaluated by her physician.*

4. **Budget Amendments:**

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 15
 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
45-385-004	TDA - EDPNC Grant	10,750	
45-682-141	TDA - Promotional Activities	10,750	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 20/21 budget to include CARES Relief Funds as approved by the State to be used for election workers/expenses related to November 3rd election.			

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 16
 GENERAL FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-348-012	EM - EM Grants	6,000	
10-530-333	EM - Performance Grant	6,000	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 20/21 budget to include CERT Team Grant/AARP.			

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 17
 GENERAL FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-351-001	Sheriff - Grants	24,500	
10-510-420	Sheriff - Gov. Crime Commission Grant	24,500	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 20/21 budget to include a grant from Governors Crime Commission.			

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18
 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
78-500-800	E911 - 911 Carry Forward		50,000
78-500-161	E911 - Hardware Maintenance	50,000	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 20/21 budget to cover expenses for the purchase of a recorder for the 911 Center.			

5. **Board Reappointments:** The following LEPC roster was unanimously approved by the Board:

NAME	SPECIALTY	NAME	SPECIALTY
Bass, Billy	Fire	Nelson, Wallace	Local Elected Official
Bonner, Greg	Elected Official	Nixon, Jonathan	EM/EMS/911
Brittingham, Richard	EM/Fire/RRT-1	Overman, Barry	Fire
Carpenter, Roy	CERT (Lands End)	Palmer, Cordell	EM/LE
Cartwright, Michael	Fire	Parnell, Brian	NCEM
Chaney, Susan	DSS	Perq SO Rep	Law
Chowan SO Rep	Law	Ponte, Tom	EM
Coburn, Andy	CERT (Albemarle)	Smith, Lewis	Owner/Operator
Gay, Aaron	Fire (NC Forestry)	Solesbee, Julie	EM/Press
Hollowell, Ralph	Environmental	Spruill, Mary	Hospital
Lafon, David	Fire/Law	Stoop, Ashley	Health Dept.
Layton, Miles	Press	Ward, Paul	NCDA (Environmental)
Layton, Nicole	Press	Winslow, Jarvis	EM
NCHP Rep	Law		

D. **Reinstatement of Register of Deeds' Salary:** Pursuant to G.S. 153A-92, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a Resolution reinstating the Register of Deeds' salary to \$49,196 (Grade 70/Step 8) effective December 1, 2020. This action is taken in compliance with General Statute 153A-92

PRESENTATION TO BRENDA LASSITER, PLANNING BOARD

Chairman Nelson presented a plaque to Brenda Lassiter for her fourteen (14) years of service on the Planning Board. She resigned from the Planning Board on October 1, 2020. The Board members thanked her for her service. Ms. Lassiter made a few comments.

ASHLEY STOOP, ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Chairman Nelson introduced Ms. Stoop who presented an update on COVID-19. After her presentation, she asked if there were any questions. Chairman Nelson asked if the number of testing will impact our numbers. Ms. Stoop responded. There being no further questions, the Chairman called on Rhonda Money.

RHONDA MONEY, PLANNER

Rhonda Money presented the following request:

SUBJECT: N.C. General Statute Chapter 160D Regulation Update for Perquimans County.

Why it is needed— Chapter 160D consolidates and reorganizes the Articles of Planning & Regulation of Development in current Article 18, Chapter 153A for counties and Article 19, Chapter 160A for municipalities. It also repeals these existing statutes as of January 1, 2021. This reorganization was initiated by the Zoning and Land Use Section of the N.C. Bar Association in 2013. In 2019, after six years of discussions and Senate and House failures, the General Assembly finally adopted a bill that combined the Chapter 160D bill (S.422) with a set of statutory amendments proposed by the N.C. Home Builders Association (S. 355).

When it is effective -- The effective date of Chapter 160D has changed several times from Jan 1, 2021 to August 1, 2021 due to COVID-19 uncertainty, then to **June 19, 2020** which is the current **effective date** (S.L. 2020-25). As it stands now, Chapter 160D is in effect if your local regulations have already been updated. The official deadline to update is January 1, 2021, but due to COVID-19, the **General Assembly is allowing local governments an extra six months, to July 1, 2021 to bring their regulations into conformity.**

“Local governments can enact their amendments now, but they are not required to do so until July 1, 2021.” *David Owens, Coates’ Canons Blog: Chapter 160D Now Effective*

What it encompasses— Perquimans County’s Manufactured Home Park Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, and Zoning Ordinance need to be edited for issues such as:

- References to G.S. Chapters 160A or 153A will need to reference appropriate 160D sections
- Terminology must be updated to match 160D terms, such as Conditional Zoning (vs. Conditional Use District) and Special Use Permit (vs. Conditional Use Permit).
- Definitions for *building, dwelling, dwelling unit, bedroom, and sleeping unit* must be consistent with definitions in state law.
- New staff conflict-of-interest standards must be incorporated into regulations.
- Must adopt comprehensive plan updates using legislative decision procedures.
- Must reasonably maintain a comprehensive plan.
- Conditional-use-district zoning must be eliminated: existing CUD zoning converts to conditional zoning district on January 1, 2021.
- For a future land use map that is deemed amended, if it is a CAMA plan, then such amendment is not effective until it goes through the CAMA plan-amendment process
- Parties with standing must be allowed to participate fully in an evidentiary hearing, including presenting evidence, cross-examining witnesses, objecting to evidence, and making legal arguments.
- Multi-phase developments must be recognized – long-term projects of at least 25 acres – with vesting up to seven years, except for specified exceptions.
- Be aware that a court *shall* award attorneys’ fees if the court finds that a city or county violated a statute or case law setting forth unambiguous limits on its authority.

Now is also the opportune moment to make minor text amendments, such as incorporating 2017 legislation into our subdivision regulations (street maintenance bonds).

How to implement— Due to the extensive time required in the nature of the task, more personnel is needed to complete the project by the required deadline.

Subcontractor, Holland Consulting Planners, has submitted a proposal to re-write/update the Perquimans County zoning, subdivision, and manufactured home park ordinances for a proposed fee not to exceed seventeen thousand five hundred dollars (\$17,500). The proposal is based on the following considerations:

- County staff will provide a list of edits/corrections which should be made to the Zoning Ordinance
- The Subdivision Regulations will be updated to ensure compliance with all NCGS requirements, including NCGS 160D and road maintenance bonds.
- Revisions to the manufactured home park ordinance for compliance with NCGS 160D.
- There will be one (1) meeting with the Planning Board, one (1) work session with the Board of Commissioners, and attendance at a public hearing.
- Landin Holland will be the Project Manager and primary contact.
- Delivery to the County of an electronic copy of all revised ordinances.

County Manager Heath also mentioned that, while they are making these required changes, the Board may want to consider some change in the lot sizes. On motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by Charles Woodard, the Board unanimously approved the contract with Holland Consulting Planners and the following Budget Amendment No. 14:

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 14
GENERAL FUND**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-399-000	General Fund Balance Appropriated	17,500	
10-420-040	County Manager - Professional Services	17,500	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 20/21 budget to include funds to cover expenses as required due to 160D regulation changes/updates.			

JAMES BUNCH, ASSISTANT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Bunch was unable to be at the meeting so Jamie Johnson, Director of Maintenance, presented the following Perquimans County School System five-year capital outlay plan:

PQ Schools 0-5 Year Plan

UNIT: 720	PRIORITY	NEW SCHOOL	ADDITIONS	RENOVATIONS	FURN/EQUP	LAND	TOTAL
PCS	2	0	0	\$2,312,202	\$160,000	0	\$2,472,202
HGS	2	0	0	\$870,860	\$160,000	0	\$1,030,860
PCHS	1	0	0	\$5,896,635	\$230,000	0	\$6,126,635
PCMS	2	0	0	\$5,117,896	\$210,000	0	\$5,327,896
TOTAL		0	0	\$14,197,593	\$760,000	0	\$14,957,593

PCS: Kitchen equipment, roof replacement, furniture replacement, upgrade fire system, paving.

HGS: Kitchen equipment, lighting upgrade, HVAC upgrade, asbestos abatement, upgrade fire system, paving.

PCHS: Kitchen equipment, paving, roof and window replacement, HVAC upgrade, restroom renovations, upgrade fire system, lighting upgrade.

PCMS: Kitchen equipment, paving, canopy for student pick-up, roof replacement, lighting upgrade, HVAC upgrade, science lab, upgrade fire system.

PQ Schools 6-10 Year Plan

UNIT: 720	PRIORITY	NEW SCHOOL	ADDITIONS	RENOVATIONS	FURN/EQUP	LAND	TOTAL
PCS	4	0	\$877,500	0	\$73,320	0	\$950,820
HGS	3	0	0	\$193,748	0	0	\$193,748
PCHS	3	0	0	\$177,750	0	0	\$177,750
PCMS	4	0	\$3,944,531	0	\$329,588	0	\$4,274,119
TOTAL		0	\$4,822,031	\$371,498	\$402,908	0	\$5,596,437

PCS: Add 2 (two) new Pre-K classrooms

HGS: Replace windows and roof

PCHS: Renovate auditorium and science lab

PCMS: Replace gymnasium

After his presentation, Chairman Nelson asked Superintendent Tucker if she had any comments. She made a few comments and thanked the Board for the continued support of Perquimans County School System. At the Board's tour through the schools, the Board was able to see how many of these repairs and renovations were needed. They have already handled some of their needs and she hopes that, once this pandemic subsides and the Board can take another tour, the Board will see how many things have been improved. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the plan as reviewed and to authorize Chairman and County Manager to sign the document once it is prepared.

ZLS TAX SERVICES

Bill Jennings, Tax Administrator, introduced Mark Bardill and Ben Bardill of Zacchaeus Legal Services (ZLS). Mr. Mark Bardill provided an overview of their company which specializes in mortgage foreclosures. After he made his presentation, he asked the Board if they had any questions. County Manager Heath asked about their company initiating the in rem process in their program. Mr. Bardill said that their company had opted out of that process. Chairman Nelson asked Mr. Bardill if they have had any litigations filed against them while handling this process. Mr. Bardill said that they have not. Commissioner Woodard asked where their business was located. Mr. Bardill said that it was located in Trenton, NC. There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Nelson stated that the Board would consider his proposal and notify him of their decision.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following commissioner concerns/committee report was given:

- **Commissioner Woodard:** Commissioner Woodard said that many of the fishermen have complained to him about not having enough lighting at the boat ramp at the Recreation Center at this time of year. County Manager Heath said that he had discussed this with Mr. Woodard and is looking into adding additional lighting in that area.

There being no further comments or reports, Mr. Nelson proceeded with the rest of the meeting.

UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **Marine Basin Bids:** Mr. Heath informed the Board that the County has applied for a \$1.5 million grant through NC Commerce Industrial Fund for the marine basin. He hopes to have a response by the end of this month. Commissioner Lennon asked Mr. Heath if the changing of our Tier status would affect the approval of this grant. Mr. Heath stated that the Tier status change will not take effect until 2021 so it should not affect it.
- **PORT Building (old Mental Health Building):** County Manager Heath explained that he met with the Board of Elections at the PORT Building and it was the opinion of the Board of Elections that the building was too small for their needs and that they would like to remain at the Extension Building. Therefore, he has offered the old EMS/Mentoring Building to them and they feel that would be the best solution. There will be more discussions about the PORT Building at a later date.

APPOINTMENT: AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TO ALBEMARLE COMMISSION'S BOARD OF DELEGATES

As explained last month, Albemarle Commission notified the County last month that Perquimans County would be eligible this year to appoint an at-large representative to the Albemarle Commissioner's Board of Delegates. Chairman Nelson asked the Board if they had any recommendations for this appointment. Commissioner Leigh suggested Connie Brothers and Charles Woodard mentioned that Dianne Layden had mentioned it. Chairman Nelson asked if the County had a Statement of Interest to Serve application on file for these individuals. County Manager Heath stated that he did not think that we had a volunteer application from Connie Brothers but did have one from Dianne Layden. Mary

Hunnicut, Clerk to the Board, confirmed that. After some discussion, Joseph W. Hoffer made a motion to appoint Connie Brothers as the at-large representative to the Albemarle Commission's Board of Delegates for a two-year term pending receipt of the completed Statement of Interest to Serve application. The motion was seconded by Alan Lennon and unanimously approved by the Board.

SWEARING-IN

Todd Tilley, Clerk of Superior Court, gave the Oath of Office to newly re-elected Commissioners Joseph W. Hoffer, T. Kyle Jones, and Charles Woodard.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIR

Hackney High, County Attorney, acting as Temporary Chairman of the meeting, opened the floor for nominations for Chair/Chairman of the Board. Charles Woodard nominated Wallace E. Nelson as Chairman. Joseph W. Hoffer seconded the nomination. Mr. High asked if there were any other nominations. There being none, Fondella A. Leigh made a motion that the nominations be closed. The motion was seconded by Joseph W. Hoffer and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. High ordered that the nominations be closed. T. Kyle Jones made a motion to elect Wallace E. Nelson as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Charles Woodard and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. High, opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair/Chairman of the Board. T. Kyle Jones nominated Fondella A. Leigh as Vice Chair. Charles Woodard seconded the nomination. Mr. High asked if there were any other nominations. There being none, Joseph W. Hoffer made a motion that the nominations be closed. The motion was seconded by Charles Woodard and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. High ordered that the nominations be closed. Wallace E. Nelson made a motion to elect Fondella A. Leigh as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Charles Woodard and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. High turned the meeting over to the newly re-elected Chairman, Wallace E. Nelson.

PLANNING ITEM: STATUS REPORT ON CUP-19-03 – PERQUIMANS SOLAR, LLC'S LARGE SCALE SOLAR POWER GENERATING FACILITY

County Manager Heath presented background information on the extension of the CUP-19-03. Normally the extension is for one year but Geenex is requesting a two-year extension. Jim Harris, representative of Geenex, presented the following letter and explained the problems that they have experienced and the reason they are requesting the two-year extension:



October 29, 2020

Via USPS and Electronic Mail

Board of County Commissioners
c/o Planning Office/County Manager Office
Perquimans County
PO Box 45
Hertford, NC 27944

Re: Perquimans Solar CUP-19-03

Dear Board,

This letter concerns the above reference Conditional Use Permit officially issued to Perquimans Solar, LLC as of the date October 7, 2019 (the "CUP"). Pursuant to Section N of the CUP, Perquimans Solar LLC formally requests an extension of the CUP for at least one year, specifically the time in which to begin construction on the project from December 31, 2020 to, preferably, December 31, 2022.

Perquimans Solar, LLC has diligently prepared to begin and complete construction on the project throughout 2020. Unfortunately, construction has not been able to proceed due to unanticipated interconnection delays with Dominion Energy and will be delayed beyond December 31, 2020. There is a large electric customer in the area that is expected to go offline in late 2021/early 2022. Due to issues with transmission capacity, the project will become fully financially feasible for commercial operation after the large customer has gone off-line. These delays are further compounded by the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a negative impact on the underlying conditions for proceeding with the Project such as the conditions for construction as well as impacts to financial markets and financing conditions.

Accordingly, Perquimans Solar, LLC respectfully requests that the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to Section N of the CUP, grant an extension of the CUP of at least a year or more, and preferably, up to and including December 31, 2022, in which to begin construction. We appreciate your attention to this matter and if the Board requires anything further from, or has questions for, Perquimans Solar, LLC please let us know.

Best regards,

Kara W. Price
Senior Vice President, Permitting & Development
Geenex Solar

cc: Rhonda Money, Perquimans County, NC Planner
(rhondamoney@perquimanscountync.gov)

Phillip A. Harris, Jr., Attorney, Kilpatrick Townsend &
(pharris@kilpatricktownsend.com)

Geenex Solar, LLC
1930 Abbott Street
Suite 402
Charlotte, NC 28203
980-237-7926
info@geenexsolar.com

Chairman Nelson asked if the Board had any questions. Commissioner Lennon asked that, within his letter, they mentioned something about a large electric customer is going offline in late 2021/early 2022 but they cannot promise this. Mr. Harris explained that this was one of the reasons for the request for a two-year extension. On motion made by T. Kyle Jones, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler, the Board unanimously approved Geenex’s request for a two-year extension on CUP-19-03.

NCACC CONFERENCE VOTING DELEGATE

Chairman Nelson stated that the Board needed to appoint a voting delegate to the virtual NCACC Legislative Goals Conference on January 14-15, 2021. On motion made by Alan Lennon, seconded by Charles Woodard, the Board unanimously appointed Wallace E. Nelson as the Voting Delegate to the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comment was made:

- **Terry Swope**: Mr. Swope presented the following public comment regarding the reduction of elected officials salary:

Two years ago I witnessed my first election here in the County. The process of electing a sheriff mortified me.

In Feb of 2018, a resolution was passed by the Board to reduce the pay of the "New" sheriff by about 30%. I use air quotes very purposely, because if the "New" sheriff ended up being the old sheriff, it was verbally conveyed to him the pay would immediately jump back up and he wouldn't see a dime lost.

This year, the office of Register of Deeds was up for election. In January, a resolution was passed to reduce the pay of the "New" Register of Deeds by about 20%. Apparently, this resolution was passed as a safeguard measure though, as it was stated at the time, "We need to pass this now, but I don't think anyone is running against Jackie". Tonight, with Ms. Frierson's position firmly secured, the compensation is returned to it previously higher level.

This message is not about Sheriff White or Ms. Frierson: it's about how you implement NC Gen Stat 153A-92.

The Office of Sheriff is an elected, independent office, answerable only to the people. In short, he doesn't work for you. It is MEANT to be this way. The same is true for the Register of Deeds. They are elected positions, very purposely meant to be kept distant from the power brokers. This is to help ensure their impartiality should a dispute arise, ESPECIALLY a dispute between powerful individuals such as yourselves and the common Perquimans Citizen. Most everywhere in American practices this system.

Now you folks, more than most, know that anytime someone runs for public office that they must make sacrifices of money, time, privacy, etc. In short—they are putting themselves at risk.

I say, when you alter the compensation of ONE candidate vs that of another, you are providing two very different risk/reward profiles to the candidates. How many potential candidates DON'T even run because of the lowered compensation? The lowered reward, no long justifies the sacrifices they must make. We'll never know. You have culled the field of candidates in advance.

I believe 153A-92 was meant to prevent powerful commissioners from pulling the rug from under the other ELECTED officials if said officials didn't play ball with the commissioners. I believe THAT was the true intention of 153A-92.

I further believe you are misusing 153A-92 and in doing so tainting the very election process itself. I don't believe you are doing so maliciously (I wasn't so sure two years ago) but it doesn't change the fact you are doing it.

You have somehow lost sight of the fact these are ELECTED positions, and past experience or training or years of public service, are irrelevant. They have no bearing on the compensation. You are to provide money's for the offices; THE PEOPLE decide who fills those offices. When you trim the field of potential candidates at the start of the election cycle by promising any challengers less, you are changing the election itself, and not for the better.

Ask yourselves, why is this not done for Mayor, Judges, Governors, Senators, County Commissioners, etc.

ONLY here do we do this, and it is wrong.

--Terry Swope--
- **Quentin Jackson**: Mr. Jackson came before the Board for two reasons. First of all, regarding ZLS stating that they have a contract with the Town of Hertford which is illegal because the Town of Hertford has a contract with Perquimans County to collect taxes. He stated that, when you look at ZLS, the process that the Town of Hertford did was that Hertford Town Council agreed to provide them with nine properties to look at how the process ran. They were supposed to come back to the Council and they have not done so. What they did do was to tell them that, if the Town of Hertford did not give them all the properties, they did not want anything to do with the Town of Hertford. Mr. Jackson voted against the contract with ZLS. The Town of Hertford sent the following properties to them: 16 properties on King Street; 11 properties on Dobb Street; and 10 properties on Market Street. Ask yourself where the majority of African-American Hertford residents live and you will find that the majority live on these streets. He further stated that the Town of Hertford has a 96% collection rate thanks to the County for doing a wonderful job. He is asking that the Board take a careful look at ZLS and not to make any rash decision. The second reason was to thank County Manager Heath publicly for his assistance in several projects that they have worked on. He said that, during the last couple of meetings that he came to address the Board, he did not have kind words for Mr. Heath. He said that he came tonight to thank County Manager Heath for assisting him in several recent projects. He hopes that they can continue this working relationship.
- **Kim Brinn**: She came to let the Board know that she supports the use ZLS to collect taxes for the County.

CLOSED SESSION: CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY REGARDING A LEGAL MATTER AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

There being no further comments from the public, Chairman Nelson proceeded with the closed session. Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(3), the Board will need to go into Closed Session to consult with their attorney regarding a legal matter and closed session minute approval. On motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh, the Board unanimously voted to go into Closed Session.

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 was required from the Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Nelson stated that, unless something comes up before December 21st, we will not be having a Work Session. There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board

* * * * *