
REGULAR MEETING

November 7, 2022
7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Fondella A. Leigh, Vice Chair
Thelma Finch-Copeland Joseph W. Hoffler
Charles Woodard

MEMBERS ABSENT: T. Kyle Jones

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

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

AGENDA

Chairman Nelson stated that a copy of the Agenda was at their seats tonight. Chairman Nelson said that A.O. Roberts could not be here tonight. Mr. Heath said that, if it is okay with the Board, he would personally deliver the plaque to him. Fondella A. Leigh made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. 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 by Charles Woodard, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler.

- Approval of Minutes:** October 3, 2022 Regular Meeting, October 17, 2022 Joint Work Session with Planning Board, and October 17, 2022 Work Session (cancelled) were approved.

- Tax Refund Approvals:**

Christian, Michael----- \$191.13
Vehicle sold; 8-month refund. Account No. 64668774.
Miller, Christopher ----- \$220.00
Over payment of prepaid taxes. Account No. 253952.
Empire Equipment LLC Co. ----- \$349.50
Over payment of prepaid taxes. Account No. 265379.

Tax Release Approval:

Alpha Value Solar LLC----- \$27,989.80
Did not receive 80% discount. Account No. 358517.

- Personnel Matters:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Jesse Howard	Part-Time/Fill-In Non-Certified Telecommunicator	Appointment	60/1	\$14.16/hr.	10/01/2022
Samuel Spear	Part-Time/Fill-In Non-Certified Telecommunicator	Appointment	60/1	\$14.16/hr.	10/01/2022
Kimberly Macias	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic	Appointment	68/1	\$20.14/hr.	10/01/2022
Denise Stallings	Public Information Assistant IV / Energy	Job Reclassification*	59/7	\$32,630	11/01/2022
<i>*this salary will be for a period of three (3) months (November, December, & January).</i>					

- Step Increases:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Trevor Miles	Planning Assistant	61/3	\$32,321	11/01/2022
Derek Blake	Paramedic	68/2	\$20.64/hr.	11/01/2022
Ryan Cappel	Certified Deputy	65/3	\$38,543	11/01/2022
Victor Sulliban	Certified Deputy/SRO Officer	65/3	\$38,543	11/01/2022
Spencer Wentz	Certified Deputy	65/2	\$37,626	11/01/2022
Lisa Layden	Tax Clerk - DMV	58/5	\$29,741	11/01/2022

- Budget Amendments:**

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 22
GENERAL FUNDS**

CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	AMOUNT	
		INCREASE	DECREASE
10-348-034	Extension - 4H Grant	900	
10-615-143	Extension - 4H Grant	900	
EXPLANATION: To amend FY 21/22 budget to include a 4-H grant for Extension as awarded by Albemarle Community Trust.			

- Board Reappointments/Appointment:** The following board reappointments/appointment were approved by the Board:

Name	Board/Committee	Action Taken	Term	Effective Date
Heath, Frank	Highway 17/64 Association Board of Trustees	Reappointment	1 yr.	12/01/2022
Moore, Antoine	Planning Board, Chairman	Reappointment	3 yrs.	12/01/2022
Smith, Lewis	Planning Board, Vice Chairman	Reappointment	3 yrs.	12/01/2022
Heath, Frank	RPO Transportation Advisory Committee - Alternate	Reappointment	2 yrs.	12/01/2022
Hutto, Jo-Ellen Robinson	Senior Tarheel Regional Legislature & Advisory Board	Appointment	1 yr.	12/01/2022
Nelson, Wallace	Chowan/Perquimans Multi-County LEPC	Reappointment	1 yr.	12/01/2022

The Board also approved the following Board appointments/reappointments for the Chowan/Perquimans LEPC 2023 Roster:

NAME	SPECIALTY	NAME	SPECIALTY
Bass, Billy	Fire	Nelson, Wallace	Elected Official (Perquimans)
Brewster, Sue	CERT (Shores at LE)	Newman, Tyler	Press

NAME	SPECIALTY	NAME	SPECIALTY
Brittingham, Richard	EM/Fire/RRT-1	Nixon, Jonathan	EM/EMS/911
Cartwright, Michael	Fire	Overman, Barry	Fire
Chaney, Susan	DSS	Palmer, Cordell	EM/LE
Chowan SO Rep	Law	Perquimans SO Rep.	Law
Hollowell, Ralph	Environmental	Ponte, Tom	EM
Kehayes, Alex	Elected Official (Chowan)	Smith, Lewis	Owner/Operator (Parkway Ag)
LaFon, Anita	Health Dept.	Solesbee, Julie	EM/Press
LaFon, David	Fire/Law	Spruill, Mary	Volunteer
Levine, Miki	CERT (Albemarle)	Ward, Paul	NCDA (Environmental)
Long, Rick	Fire (NC Forestry)	Williams, Tonya	Hospital
McKeever, Jim	CERT (Deep Creek)	Winn, Billy	NCEM
NCHP Rep	Law	Winslow, Jarvis	EM

7. **Enclosures:** The following miscellaneous document was approved by the Board:

- a. **Resolution - Removal of Certain Public Record Books from Register of Deeds' Office:** The Board approved the following Resolution as presented:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
REMOVAL OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORD BOOKS
KEPT BY THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR
THE PURPOSE OF REPAIR, RESTORATION
AND REBINDING**

WHEREAS, NCGS 132-7 provides that books of public records should be copied or repaired, renovated or rebound if worn, mutilated, damaged or difficult to read; and

WHEREAS, there is identified certain books of public records maintained by the Register of Deeds in need of repair, restoration and rebinding; and

WHEREAS, Kofile Technologies is under contract to provide repair, restoration and rebinding of those certain books of public records.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR PERQUIMANS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, that:

Section 1. The Register of Deeds is authorized to remove or cause to be removed to the care and custody of Kofile Technologies for repair, restoration and rebinding the following books of public records:

Vital Statistics Marriage Licenses 1903 - 1906

Section 2. The books of public records listed in Section 1 of this resolution may remain in the care and custody of Kofile Technologies for the length of time required to repair, restore and rebind them.

Section 3. This resolution is effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED the 7th day of November, 2022.

Wallace Nelson, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

RALPH HOLLOWELL, ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mr. Hollowell explained that he was here on behalf of the PCG Solid Waste Board concerning the PCG Landfill Hauling Contract. Republic Services owns and operates the Landfill in Bertie County. They take all our trash and incorporate it in the Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Authority (ARSWA) and within that, we have the PCG Landfill which oversees the PCG Landfill on Perry's Bridge Road and all the Convenience Sites in these three counties which includes the five sites in Perquimans County. During this time, Republic has seen a major impact on what they are making in transporting our trash. Republic has come to Mr. Hollowell who met with them individually and then with the PCG Landfill Board. Tonight, he wanted to update the Board on what they are discussing. Basically, the current contract we have is based on a per mile charge and what Republic wants to do is to go to a per hour/per minute charge. Our contract is the only one in the Mid-Atlantic Region that uses this per mile structure. The per hour/per minute contract covers the driver's wages, truck operating costs, fuel costs, insurance expense, maintenance expense, and several other factors. Right now, with our current contract, our fuel surcharge has a language included in the contract that says, when the price of diesel fuel surpluses \$3.00 per gallon, the Authority would have to pay the difference. The rates have not kept up with the inflationary cycle for Republic Services. Some of the reasons for this is that they are having problems hiring drivers and the price of diesel fuel. Basically, Republic Services has not charged the Authority anything over the past few months for this increase in fuel charge. Now, they have come to the Authority to request that we make a change. Right now from January through October, there is a \$43,000 charge for Perquimans County that is due to Republic Services. They have said that they would be willing to credit it to us if we would be willing to look into going to the per hour/per minute contract. Perquimans County has five sites: US 17 North, US 17 South, Belvidere, Hertford Center Hill, and New Hope. He provided the following hauling rate figures: North US 17 Site - \$102.54/actual costs \$126.10 negative impact of \$23.56; Hertford Center Hill Site - \$131.25/actual costs \$179.63 negative impact of \$48.38. For the rest of this fiscal year, the County is looking at approximately \$50,000. We have been discussing this with Republic and the Board has asked them to look into what it would cost the Authority to get into the hauling business. This is something the counties can look at but he does know that it going to be extremely expensive to get into the trucking business. Getting drivers and purchasing new trucks will be very expensive but he would be willing to do the research and provide the counties with those costs. The decision on the contract needs to be made as soon as possible. They wanted to start the new contract by November 1, 2022. Mr. Hollowell asked Mr. Heath if he had any further comments. After Mr. Heath listened to what Republic explained to the PCG Landfill Board, his view is that we need to hold Republic to the current contract and renegotiate for next budget cycle. Mr. Hollowell and Mr. Heath agreed that we will probably need at least three drivers plus standby drivers at a minimum rate of \$25 per hour plus benefits. Mr. Hollowell said that the Authority would have to pay at least \$120,000 back fuel surcharges or \$40,000 per county (Chowan, Gates, &

Perquimans). Mr. Heath said that Perquimans County may have to pay more since we have one extra convenience site. Chairman Nelson asked what the other counties are doing. Mr. Heath said that they are doing the same thing we are doing tonight. Taking this information back to the Board of Commissioners and getting recommendations from them. Mr. Hollowell asked Commissioner Hoffer if he had any further comments. Mr. Hoffer said that Mr. Heath explained it well. Chairman Nelson asked that, when he comes back to the Board, have an itemized list of what we are paying now and what the proposed costs would be if we change to the per hour/per minute charge.. Commissioner Leigh asked when the current contract with Republic is due to expire. Mr. Hollowell said that he thought it was in 2024. Chairman Nelson said that he felt that keeping the same is the best because we should not negotiate new contracts during the fiscal year. Mr. Heath asked Mr. Hollowell if the PCG Landfill Board would be meeting in December to discuss what the Commissioners had recommended. Mr. Hollowell said that they would have to. They were also waiting for the auditor to finish their audit. Chairman Nelson asked if these drivers would be employees of the Landfill Authority or Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS). Mr. Hollowell said that they would be employees of ARHS. The Board asked about how many trucks they would need. Mr. Hollowell said that they would probably need at least four trucks including one for standby. Chairman Nelson asked who owns the equipment at the current convenience sites. Mr. Hollowell said that everything that is at the sites belongs to ARHS. We just do not own the trucks to haul. Chairman Nelson asked about the maintenance of that equipment. Mr. Hollowell said that they include capital improvements within each county landfill budgets. The Board thanked Mr. Hollowell for his attendance and report tonight.

JARED HARRELL, NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Mr. Harrell, Executive Director of NC Cooperative Extension, presented his annual report to the people. In addition to his annual report, he introduced Sarah Sowders who started as our FCS Agent today, November 7, 2022. He then presented a video to show all they have done this year. Ms. Sowders made a few comments and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with Perquimans County residents.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

There being no commissioner's concerns or committee reports, Chairman Nelson moved forward with the meeting.

UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **Marine Park Basin Construction Update:** Mr. Heath reported that the project is going strong and making good progress.
- **Tennis Court Construction Update:** Mr. Heath reported that they would begin construction of the tennis courts at the Recreation Center pretty soon.
- **Opioid Settlement Update:** Mr. Heath reported that he attended a meeting with the NC Attorney General on October 19, 2022 who discussed the programs and that they were going to focus on the post-overdose response programs.
- **Mock Trial – October 20, 2022:** On October 20, 2022, the County held a Mock Trial, which was a by-product of the Active Shooter Exercise at the High School. It was a good exercise in that it assisted county personnel with learning how to handle testifying in court. Judge Janice Cole was the judge for the trial. County Attorney High served on one side and Commissioner Jones served on the other side. Mr. High said that it was a good experience for all that attended.
- **Leadership Training:** With the assistance of Sheriff Shelby White, Mr. Heath was able to obtain Paul Butler of South Carolina who held a leadership training for all county employees. Mr. Heath said that he had received good comments from those that attended. Sheriff White made a few comments.
- **Radio Station:** Mr. Heath reported that on November 18, 2022 at 7:00 a.m. Brew 2 Rescue will have Henry Hinton present to do a live broadcast of his talk show on 103.7 out of Greenville. He invited the Board members to come down and visit.
- **Christmas Activities:** Mr. Heath presented the following Christmas activities: Christmas Parade – December 3rd, Grand Illumination Activities – December 2nd; and the Festival of Lights will start on December 2nd and continue throughout the month of December.

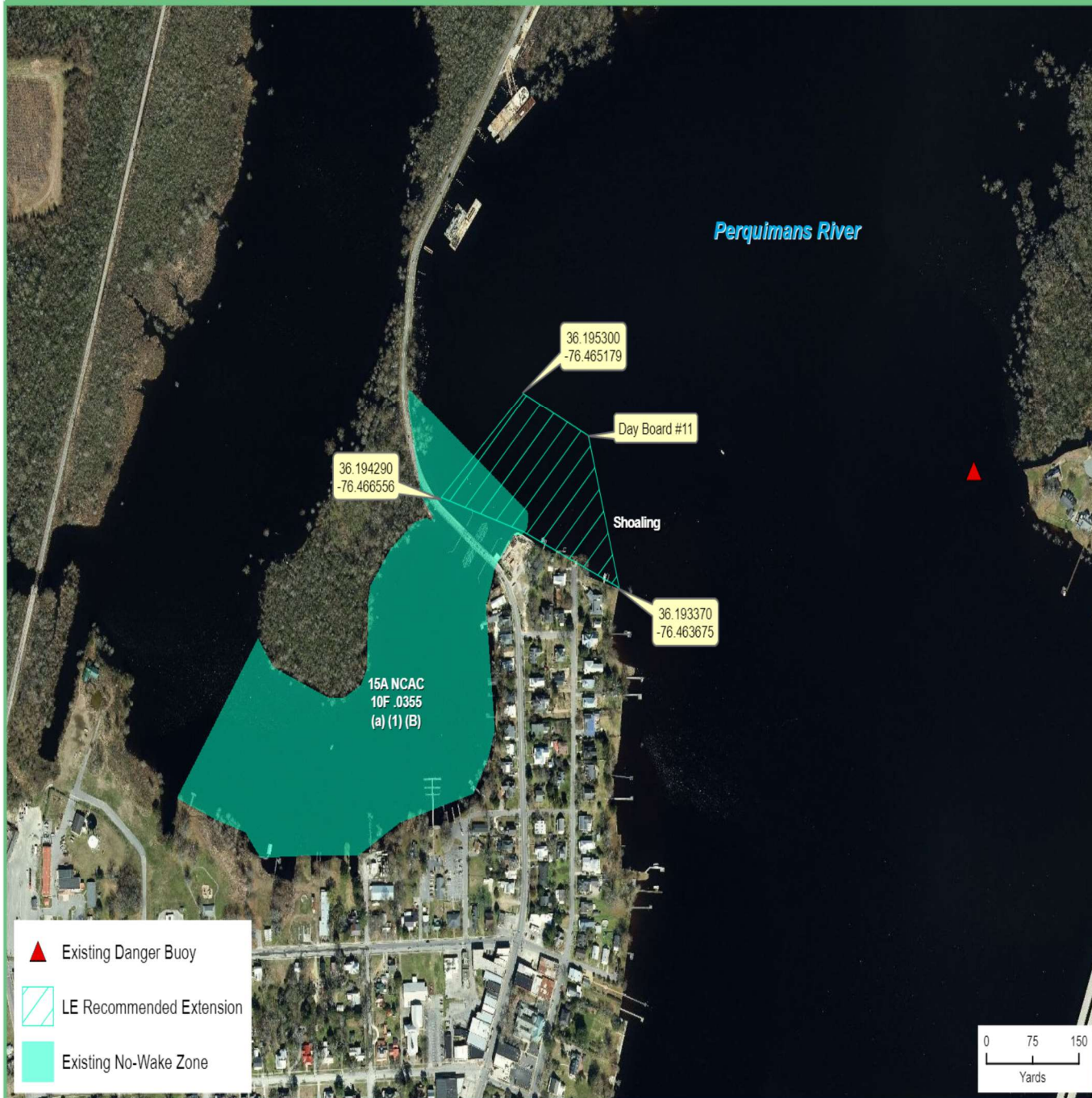
RESPONSE: TOWN OF HERTFORD REQUEST TO EXPAND THE PERQUIMANS RIVER NO-WAKE ZONE

County Manager Heath stated that, on April 4, 2022, the Board approved to forward the Town of Hertford's request to extend the No-Wake Zone to NC Wildlife. He reported that we have received a response stating that NC Wildlife is requesting that, for safety reasons, the No-Wake Zone should be larger than what the Town of Hertford requested. The revised resolution requesting the extension of the No-Wake Zone was forwarded to the Town of Hertford to request a larger No-Wake Zone so that the Hertford Town Council would approve the NC Wildlife recommendation. Once we receive the adopted resolution, we will forward that one to NC Wildlife for action at their December, 2022 meeting. A copy of the revised map of the proposed No-Wake Zone extension is included as part of these Minutes:

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WAS INTENTIONALLY LEFT
BLANK.**



15A NCAC 10F .0355 (a) (1) (B) - No Wake Zone Extension
 "S" Bridge in Town of Hertford, Perquimans River, Perquimans County



Created by NCRWC, October 2022

Mr. Heath also reported that the Town of Hertford will purchase the buoys and the County will maintain them. Further action may be taken next month.

SALE OF SURPLUS MOTORCYCLE

County Manager Heath reported that the Board adopted a resolution in October proclaiming the following motorcycle as surplus equipment and to proceed to sell it on GovDeals. The bid period for the following surplus items with GovDeals closed today at 11:00 a.m. On motion made by Fondella A. Leigh, seconded by Charles Woodard, the Board approved the following sale of the surplus motorcycle:

BUYER	ITEM	DATE SURPLUSED	START BID	SOLD AMOUNT
Salvatore Oliveto	2004 Harley Davidson Motorcycle, VIN #3668	10/03/2022	\$300	\$1,155.00

VOTING DELEGATE FOR NCACC LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Currently, we have no other Commissioner attending this conference on November 16 – 18, 2022 except Chairman Nelson. On motion made by Fondella A. Leigh, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler, the Board unanimously appointed Wallace E. Nelson to be the County’s voting delegate to the NCACC Legislative Conference.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comment was made:

- **Pete Perry:** Mr. Perry discussed the medical expenses for incarcerated people. He was against it and felt that the Board should be doing something about it.

CLOSED SESSION: TO CONSULT WITH OUR ATTORNEY REGARDING REAL PROPERTY AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Chairman Nelson stated that, pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(5), the Board went into Closed Session to consult with our attorney regarding real property and to approve closed session minutes. On motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler, the Board unanimously voted to go into Closed Session.

The Closed Session was adjourned and the Regular Called Meeting reconvened on motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh and unanimously approved by the Board.

No action was required from the Closed Session

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Commissioner Woodard asked about honoring the Perquimans County High School Girls' Volleyball Team who came in second place for the State Championship. It was the consensus of the Board to send a note to the school congratulating the girls for their win. County Manager Heath will check into this and handle it. There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on motion made by Joseph W. Hoffler, seconded by Charles Woodard.

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

Clerk to the Board

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