

make sure that the amount is not above the budgeted line item. Chair Cole said that she feels that the main question here is at what point does the Finance Officer need additional authorization in case something happens. Commissioner Nelson asked if there were any written procedures for this. Mr. Heath said that they have a very informal written procedure which is like the one that was included in that Agenda Packet (copy above). Mr. Heath explained that it is the Finance Officer's responsibility to make sure that the Department Head does not request more funds than the budgeted allotted for a particular line item. When the Finance Officer signs the Purchase Order, she is stating that there is enough money in the budget to pay for that item. That is her fiscal responsibility. County Attorney High asked if the pre-audit statement is on the purchase order itself. Mr. Heath said it was. Commissioner Peeler said that the Department Head also has to sign the purchase order and should know what it budgeted for that line item. Mr. Muzzulin asked what other counties are doing. Mr. Heath said that most counties use \$500 as their minimum but he and Ms. Mathews feel that going from \$25 to \$250 is a big enough adjustment. Commissioner Nelson asked if they could poll surrounding counties and provide a copy of their procedures for purchase orders. Mr. High said that the larger counties will have a written procedure but smaller counties may not have them in writing. After further discussion, Kyle Jones made a motion to approve the proposed Purchase Order System as presented by County Manager Heath and Finance Officer Mathews. The motion was seconded by Wallace E. Nelson and unanimously approved by the Board.

EMERGENCY SERVICES GENERATOR / UPS CONTRACT

County Manager Heath explained that we had budgeted to replace the generator at EMS, transfer switch, the power supply, and the maintenance for all county generators. The following bids were received:

Company	Generator Size	Generator Cost	UPS Cost	Total Project Cost	Annual Service	1 st Year Grand Total
Biting Electrical, Inc.	124kw	\$69,648.00	\$45,986.00	\$115,454.00	\$3,386.00	\$118,840.00
CenturyLink	100kw	\$79,765.69	\$34,484.64	\$114,360.33		
Salz & Miller Electrical	124ks			\$108,431.00	\$3,035.00	\$111,466.00

The lowest bidder was Salz & Miller Electrical, Inc. and the County already has a working relationship with them. Mr. Heath is asking that the Board award the contract to Salz & Miller Electrical, Inc. so that we can proceed with this project. Commissioner Muzzulin asked if they were going to install the EMS generator off the ground enough to prevent flooding. Mr. Heath said that they would. Commissioner Peeler asked what the purpose of the two other generators listed under Lot 1 on page 3 of the contract - what are they protecting? Mr. Heath said that they would be available if they are needed in case of an emergency. He further asked about the \$3,000 fee. Mr. Heath explained that this is maintenance on the generators we already have. He further asked if our two water plant generators are included in this contract. Mr. Peeler suggested that we might want to pull them all together. Mr. Heath said that he thought that they probably have their own maintenance contracts but he would check on that for him. On motion made by Kyle Jones, seconded by Wallace E. Nelson, the Board unanimously approved the Construction Contract with Salz & Miller Electrical, Inc. to replace the EMS generator, transfer switch, power supply and the maintenance of other County generators.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Cole asked if there were any public comments. The following public comments were made:

- **Tommy Harrell:** Mr. Harrell came before the Board to provide his concerns over the proposed Apex Wind Farm Project which will be in the Bear Swamp area.
- **Emerson Cullings:** Mr. Cullings informed the Board that the previous Prayer Judgment on the property discussed earlier by Ms. Murphy has been dismissed without notification to the County's former Code Enforcement Officer. Since then, the property has received damage from Hurricane Isabel. Also, about a couple of months ago, he voiced his concerns over the Brown Farm building on US Highway 17. It was an unsightly eyesore. He feels that it needs to be removed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

Clerk to the Board

REGULAR MEETING

August 3, 2015

6:50 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 3, 2015, at 6:50 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair*
 *(arrived at 6:55 p.m.)
 Edward R. Muzzulin, Vice Chairman
 Kyle Jones
 Fondella Leigh
 Wallace Nelson
 Matthew Peeler

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

After the Vice Chairman called the meeting to order, Commissioner Peeler led in prayer and the Vice Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Muzzulin said that the first item of business was to hold a public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING

Albemarle Regional Hazardous Mitigation Plan

Vice Chairman Muzzulin opened the Public Hearing stating that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive citizens' comments on the Albemarle Regional Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The Albemarle Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) has received preliminary approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) stating that all jurisdictions should proceed with adoption. A digital copy of the draft Regional HMP can be accessed via the project website at <http://albemarleghazardmitigationplan.wikispaces.com/Plan+Sections>. Vice Chairman Muzzulin introduced Jonathan Nixon, Emergency Services Director, who reviewed a PowerPoint Presentation to give an overview of the plan. Chair Cole arrived at the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments from the public or the Board. Commissioner Peeler asked if this plan would meet the needs of Perquimans County. Mr. Nixon said that it would take care of Perquimans County, the Town of Hertford, and the Town of Winfall. Mr. Peeler further asked if the County has sufficient staff to work with this plan. Mr. Nixon said that we did. There being no further questions or comments, the Chair closed the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, 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:** July 6, 2015 Regular Meeting
2. **Tax Refund Approvals:**

PERQUIMANS COUNTY TAX REFUNDS:

Byrum, Sandra, Joseph C. & Joey ----- **\$2,370.72**
 During the 2008 revaluation, 3 mini warehouses were double listed on Parcel #2-0058-0028K; a difference in value of \$134,700; This total figure represents county tax refunds for years 2011, 2012, 2013, & 2014. Account No. 259128.

TOWN OF HERTFORD TAX REFUNDS:

Byrum, Sandra, Joseph C. & Joey ----- **\$1,885.80**
 During the 2008 revaluation, 3 mini warehouses were double listed on Parcel #2-0058-0028K; a difference in value of \$134,700; This total figure represents city tax refunds for years 2011, 2012, 2013, & 2014. Account No. 259128.

3. **Personnel Matters:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Samantha Farrar	Office Assistant III	Appointment	57/1	\$21,260	8/4/2015
James Grosjean	EMS Shift Supervisor – Training Officer	Appointment	68/4	\$37,762	8/1/2015

4. **Step/Merit Increases:**

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Grade/Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Heather Vanscoy	EMT-I	66/2	32,933	8/1/2015
Nettie Gordon	Secretary - Senior Center	56/2	10.20	8/1/2015
Rebecca Waterfield	Tax Clerk - Collections	58/5	24,909	8/1/2015
Richard Copeland	Supervisor	74/14	62,763	8/1/2015
Carolyn Lewis	IMC II	63/2	28,859	8/1/2015

5. **Approval of State Holiday Schedule** – The Board approved the following list of 2016 State Holidays:

HOLIDAY	OBSERVANCE DATE	DAY OF WEEK
New Year's Day	January 1, 2016	Friday
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 18, 2016	Monday
Good Friday	March 25, 2016	Friday
Memorial Day	May 30, 2016	Monday
Independence Day	July 4, 2016	Monday
Labor Day	September 5, 2016	Monday
Veterans Day	November 11, 2016	Friday
Thanksgiving	November 24 & 25, 2016	Thursday and Friday
Christmas	December 23, 26, 27, 2016	Friday, Monday, Tuesday

STERLING BAKER, NCDOT

Sterling Baker, NCDOT, introduced his staff that was in attendance with him. They were as follows: C. W. Bridgers, Anthony Roper, and Andy Mulder. After introducing his staff, he presented the Division One Standing Maintenance Budget. When Mr. Baker completed his review of the Budget, Chair Cole asked if anyone had any comments or questions for Mr. Baker. The following questions were asked:

- **Commissioner Peeler:** Mr. Peeler asked about where the costs of mowing the right of ways was included. Mr. Baker said that was included in the "Off The Top" Funding Items which he was getting ready to review.
- **County Manager Heath:** Mr. Heath asked about New Hope Road repaving of a section to Woodville Road. He wanted to know if this was correct. Mr. Baker said that it was.
- **Chair Cole:** Ms. Cole asked about what a thin lift overlay was. Mr. Baker said that it is ¾" thick paving which is usually for low traffic areas and subdivisions.
- **Commissioner Jones:** Mr. Jones asked about Muddy Creek Road. He thanked them for the new bridge but wanted to know if there is any repaving of Muddy Creek Road on the horizon. Mr. Heath said that the winter weather had taken a toll on the road and asked them to check it out.
- **County Manager Heath:** Mr. Heath asked about an e-mail that he had forwarded to him regarding the Board's concerns of safety along Harvey Point Road. Mr. Baker has not gotten back with Mr. Heath because funding is an issue. Chair Cole mentioned signage of speed limits is lacking.
- **Commissioner Peeler:** Mr. Peeler asked about the completion of the School Sign painting at the Middle School after the repaving. He also asked about the passing zone. Mr. Baker said that he would have to follow up on it.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Cole asked if there were any Commissioner's Concerns or Committee Reports. The following concerns and reports were given:

- Commissioner Peeler expressed the following concern about the Health & Welfare of residents around the wind project. During his research, he found a report entitled, "Wind Turbines, Noise and Health", dated February, 2007. It was prepared by Dr. Amanda Harry, M.B.Ch.B. P.G.Dip.E.N.T. Mr. Peeler cited pages 1 through 20 (**See Attachment A**) from this report which covered the impact of the wind turbines on people in the area. He recommends that the Board take the time to research these possible problems and possibly set up a moratorium on wind turbines in Perquimans County until we know that they will be safe for our residents. To view the entire report, you can go to <http://waubrafoundation.org.au/resources/dr-amanda-harry-groundbreaking-survey-sick-residents/>. Chair Cole asked who did the study. Mr. Peeler said that it was Dr. Amanda Harry. She further asked him who she was affiliated with. Mr. Peeler did not know. Commissioner Jones asked if the source was verified before presenting it. Mr. Peeler said that he had not and that he wanted to illustrate the personal touch not scientific information. Chair Cole stated that the Board has

studied this for years, travelled to observe a wind farm, and talked with people around it. Mr. Peeler just asked the Board to consider these items and to make this report a part of the Minutes.

UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

- **EMS Generator:** County Manager Heath reported that the work on replacing the EMS Generator has begun. The UPS has been installed and the staff will be testing it.
- **Senior Center Outdoor Improvements:** Mr. Heath and Mr. Bob Emmert will be meeting with the contractors to begin the improvements to the outdoor facilities at the Senior Center.
- **Rotary Club Meeting – August 11th:** The Rotary Club will be sponsoring a Commuting Meeting on August 11th at 11:00 a.m. at the 252 Grill in Hertford. They will be discussing community issues.
- **Comprehensive Transportation Plan:** Mr. Heath had received word today that the first draft of this plan will be available by October, 2015.
- **Jimmy Hunter Bridge Dedication:** In the Commissioners' Agenda Packets, there was a letter from NCDOT informing us that they officially approved the request to name the Hertford High Rise Bridge the "Jimmy 'Catfish' Hunter Memorial Bridge". In the letter, NCDOT asked if we would like to have an official dedication of this bridge. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed to work with the Town of Hertford to hold a dedication program for this event. Mr. Heath will inform the Commissioners via e-mail when and where the dedication will be held.

BOARD APPOINTMENT: CHOWAN/PERQUIMANS SMART START PARTNERSHIP

County Manager Heath informed the Board that we had received two applications for this appointment. They were received from Joyce Felton and Brooke Schultz. Copies of their applications were included in the Agenda Packets. On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin, the Board unanimously appointed Joyce Felton to the Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership Board to replace Terissa Blanchard effective August 1, 2015. Ms. Felton's term will be for two years. County Manager Heath asked the Chair to request that Ms. Hunnicutt forward Ms. Schultz's application to AWARE since they are always looking for individuals to serve and Ms. Schultz indicated on her application that she would be willing to serve on that committee. The Chair agreed.

HISTORIC HERTFORD, INC. REQUEST TO PURCHASE ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Last month, County Manager Heath presented Historic Hertford, Inc.'s (HHI) request to purchase an artificial Christmas Tree for the Courthouse Lawn. The Chair recognized Lynne Raymond, representing Historic Hertford, Inc. Board, who explained their request further. The tree that they want to purchase is 14 feet high, with a 3 foot star on top, and LED lights. It comes with a 10-year guarantee. Ms. Raymond said that they have talked with the Town of Ahoskie who purchased the same tree. The cost would be \$3,550 plus shipping. Chair Cole clarified that they are requesting that the County cover the entire costs. Ms. Raymond said that was true because they are also working on replacing the Historic Sign by PNC Bank at a cost of \$500. Commissioner Peeler asked if a similar request had been made to Tourism Development Authority (TDA) and the Town of Hertford. Ms. Raymond said that the Town of Hertford had helped to purchase the snowflakes that are put up for the Grand Illumination and their Public Works Department personnel help to put up the Christmas decorations every year. County Manager Heath asked to make a suggestion to have TDA to cover all or at least a part of the expense. Commissioner Muzzulin, Chairman of TDA, said that they do not have sufficient funds to cover this expense. Edward R. Muzzulin made a motion to have the County purchase the Christmas Tree at a cost of \$3,550 plus shipping. Commissioner Peeler said that, if Mr. Muzzulin was willing to amend his motion to have the County pay half of the cost of the tree, TDA to pay the other half of the cost of the tree, and HHI pay for shipping, he would be willing to second the motion. Mr. Muzzulin said that he would be willing to amend his motion. Therefore, Matthew Peeler seconded the amended motion to purchase the Christmas tree at a cost of \$3,500 plus shipping with the cost being shared as follows: ½ County; ½ TDA; and HHI cover the shipping. Chair Cole said that this Board can only speak for our half. The other requests will have to be approved by TDA and HHI. The amended motion was unanimously approved by the Board to commit to paying ½ of the cost of the Christmas tree.

ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MITIGATION PLAN

A public hearing was held earlier in the meeting to review the proposed Albemarle Regional Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Edward R. Muzzulin made a motion to adopt the Resolution approving the Albemarle Regional Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Matthew Peeler. Commissioner Nelson asked if this Plan was consistent with what we had in the past. County Manager Heath and Jonathan Nixon said that it was. Mr. Heath further stated that this helps with funding. The motion to adopt the following Resolution was unanimously approved by the Board:

**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
ALBEMARLE REGIONAL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the citizens and property within Perquimans County are subject to the effects of natural hazards that pose threats to lives and cause damage to property, and with the knowledge and experience that certain areas of the county are particularly vulnerable to flooding, high winds, including various manmade and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to seek ways to mitigate the impact of identified hazard risks; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Part 6, Article 21 of Chapter 143; Parts 3, 5, and 8 of Article 19 of Chapter 160A; and Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, delegated to local governmental units the responsibility to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Section 1 Part 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes (adopted in Session Law 2001-214 --- Senate Bill 300 effective July 1, 2001), states therein in Item (a) (2) "For a state of disaster proclaimed pursuant to G.S. 166A-6(a) after August 1, 2002, the eligible entity shall have a hazard mitigation plan approved pursuant to the Stafford Act"; and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 states that local governments must develop an All-Hazards Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible to receive future Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds and other disaster-related assistance funding and that said Plan must be updated and adopted within a five year cycle; and

WHEREAS, the County of Perquimans has performed a comprehensive review and evaluation of each section of the previously approved Hazard Mitigation Plan and has updated the said plan as required under regulations at 44 CFR Part 201 and according to guidance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners to fulfill this obligation in order that the County will be eligible for federal and state assistance in the event that a state of disaster is declared for a hazard event affecting the County;

NOW, therefore, be it resolved that the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners hereby:

1. Adopts the Albemarle Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and;
2. Vests Emergency Management with the responsibility, authority, and the means to:

- (a) Inform all concerned parties of this action.
 - (b) Cooperate with Federal, State and local agencies and private firms which undertake to study, survey, map and identify floodplain areas, and cooperate with neighboring communities with respect to management of adjoining floodplain areas in order to prevent exacerbation of existing hazard impacts.
3. Appoints the Emergency Management to assure that the Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed annually and every five years as specified in the Plan to assure that the Plan is in compliance with all State and Federal regulations and that any needed revisions or amendments to the Plan are developed and presented to the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners for consideration.
 4. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Adopted on this day, August 3, 2015

By: _____
Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

SEAL

Certified by: _____
Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

Date: August 3, 2015

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were considered for action:

Senate Bill 369: Chair Cole explained the purpose of the Resolution for supporting Senate Bill 369 and also explained the requested changes to the Resolution that Moore County had presented. Commissioner Nelson wanted to go on record to negotiate some kind of deal about the sales tax distribution. Commissioner Peeler had some questions about the first recital being a little ambiguous and was wondering if we needed to strike that recital. Mr. Heath further explained that recital and Mr. Peeler was okay with leaving it in. On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Wallace E. Nelson, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION BY THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 369**

THAT WHEREAS, the North Carolina Senate introduced Senate Bill 369, an act to phase-in the conversion of the local sales and use taxes authorized under Articles 39, 40 and 42 to a state sales and use tax that is allocated to counties and cities on a per capita basis as a local revenue source, which is also known as the Sales Tax Fairness Act; and

WHEREAS, the Act would eliminate most local sales taxes, such as the county-levied sales taxes, and convert them to a state sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the State would then distribute the funds to counties and cities based on population; and

WHEREAS, based on recommendation by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the Act was revised to keep the tax as County-levied; and

WHEREAS, Perquimans County's population has grown considerably in recent years, outpacing retail and commercial growth, causing residents to go out of county to shop; and

WHEREAS, under the current system of sales tax allotment, Perquimans County loses large amounts of sales tax dollars to neighboring counties; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Perquimans County lost approximately \$54 million in potential retail spending from residents shopping and dining outside of the county; and

WHEREAS, under Senate Bill 369, the Fiscal Research Division of the North Carolina General Assembly estimates Perquimans County would gain \$1.5 million in sales tax revenue in 2018-19 over the current allocation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners:

1. Declares its support of Senate Bill 369, as revised; and
2. Urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass Senate Bill 369; and
3. Directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to members of Perquimans County's State delegation and to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED the 3rd day of August, 2015.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

(SEAL)

Participate in State Health Plan: County Manager Heath explained that, in June, 2015, the General Assembly passed a bill to offer employees of local government entities an opportunity to participate in the State Health Plan for employee health insurance. This was limited to the first 10,000 lives. The stipulations include that the county cannot have over 1,000 employees and we need to get our name on a list via a Resolution. This is in no way a binding contract but, with the rising cost of health care insurance, we may need to make a change in the near future since we are in the last year of our current health insurance company. Commissioner Peeler asked if we have compared both plans to determine if our employees would be hurt with this change. Mr. Heath said that they are pretty compatible. The major difference is that their plan covers 70/30 whereas our current plan covers 80/20. Also the out of pocket expense for our plan is \$6,600 per year and the State Plan has an out of pocket expense of \$3,700. Chair Cole said that, in June, 2016, during negotiations, these coverages may change for our current plan. Commissioner Nelson said that this will position us into other alternatives when we begin discussions about our health insurance coverage next year. Commissioner Muzzulin asked what they meant by local government. Mr. Heath said counties, municipalities, and even Albemarle Regional Health Services would be included. He further asked if Albemarle District Jail would fall under this definition. Mr. Heath said that it probably would be a possibility. Matthew Peeler made a motion to adopt a Resolution to participate in the State Health Plan. The motion was seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PERQUIMANS COUNTY'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE HEALTH PLAN**

WHEREAS, Session Law 2015-112 was enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly on June 24, 2015 allowing units of local government, including Perquimans County, to enroll in the North Carolina State Health Plan; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 135-48.47 requires Perquimans County to submit a resolution legally adopting the North Carolina State Health Plan for provision of health insurance benefits to employees and their dependents; and

WHEREAS, by adopting this Resolution Perquimans County agrees to comply with all the statutory requirements of an existing employing unit under Chapter 135 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Perquimans County wishes to be considered for enrollment of its employees in the North Carolina State Health Plan and, in doing so, would agree at a minimum, to make contributions as required by the provisions of the State Health Plan.

Adopted this 3rd day of August, 2015.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

Stepping Up Initiative: County Manager Heath explained this is an initiative of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCAACC) to address the local service needs of those with mental illnesses through the appointment of a

Special Task Force. They are trying to reduce the number of mentally ill patients from being incarcerated. Chair Cole, Commissioner Jones, and Commissioner Muzzulin concurred with NCACC’s assessment of the situation. Kyle Jones made a motion to adopt the Resolution supporting the “Stepping Up Initiative”. The motion was seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin. Commissioner Peeler shared his concern regarding the fact that the system should be tracking these individuals and evaluating them. They need to determine if they are mentally capable during the trial process. What are we going to do with these individuals if they have committed a crime that would normally require them to be incarcerated but will be sent to mental illness facilities? Chair Cole stated that we are not talking about people who committed hard crimes and ones that have not gone to trial yet. The Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution:

“Stepping Up Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails”

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jails each year; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in confinement facilities are three to six times higher than for the general population, with statistics showing that almost 13% of North Carolina’s prison population requires some type of intervention due to mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses can continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals, their families, and their communities; and

WHEREAS, county jails are generally an unsafe environment for those with mental health treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has undertaken a serious effort to address the local service needs of those with mental illnesses through the appointment of a special Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Perquimans County, like all counties, takes pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of our residents in efficient, safe, and socially just ways; and

WHEREAS, through the Stepping Up Initiative, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Foundation are encouraging counties to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in county jails;

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Perquimans County,

1. That the Board of Commissioners does hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail and commits to sharing lessons learned with other counties in North Carolina and across the country to support the Stepping Up Initiative; and
2. That the Board of Commissioners will utilize resources available through the Stepping Up Initiative and other resources provided by the Council of State Governments Justice Center to convene a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies who are committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails, and
3. That this team will utilize the comprehensive resources available through the Stepping Up Initiative to develop a plan to reduce the number of people with mental illness in the county jail for 2016-2020, consistent with the Council of State Governments Justice Center report and recommendations, to be presented to the Board of Commissioners at its first meeting in December 2015.

PASSED AND APPROVED in this 3rd day of August, 2015.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED:

Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board
Perquimans County Board of Commissioners

(SEAL)

AIA CONTRACT FOR PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY

County Manager Heath presented the standard AIA Contract for the Perquimans County Library Project. County Attorney High has reviewed the contract and has approved it pending some changes. Mr. Heath recommends that, in order not to delay the project, the Board should approve the contract pending County Attorney High’s final approval. After answer several questions from the Board, Kyle Jones made a motion to approve the AIA Contract for the Perquimans County Library Project pending County Manager Heath and County Attorney High’s approval after finalizing all the changes requested by Mr. Heath and Mr. High. The motion was seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin and unanimously approved by the Board.

HCCBG CONTRACTS

The Board has been approved to receive \$140,887 in Home & Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) funds. On motion made by Edward R. Muzzulin, seconded by Wallace E. Nelson, the Board unanimously authorized the Chair and County Staff to sign the required documentation to receive these funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Cole asked if there were any public comments. The following public comments were made:

- **Marvin Drees:** Mr. Drees came before the Board to plead with them to use common sense about the wind turbines. He lives in Knoll Landing near Winfall and would be able to see these turbines from his house. He opposed the project.
- **Meredith Wood:** Ms. Wood, Assistant Extension Agent – 4-H, introduced Charlesa Leigh to the Board. Ms. Leigh will be Perquimans County’s 4-H delegate to the NCACC Conference in Greenville, NC on August 21-22, 2015.
- **Tommy Harrell:** Mr. Harrell appeared again before the Board to voice his concerns about the proposed Apex Wind Farm Project and to restate that he is opposing the project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. on motion made by Fondella A. Leigh, seconded by Matthew Peeler.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

Clerk to the Board

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ATTACHMENT A

Pages 3056 – 3074 contains the 1st 20 pages of Dr. Amanda Harry's February, 2007 report on Wind Turbines, Noise and Health. Due to it being a protected document, we had to save this document under separate cover.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

August 17, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, August 17, 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
Matthew Peeler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wallace Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Heath, County Manager/Deputy Clerk to the Board

After the Chair called the meeting to order, Commissioner Leigh led in prayer and the Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Cole explained that this Special Called Meeting was scheduled to consider Budget Amendment No. 1.

AGENDA

On motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda as amended.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1

County Manager Heath explained that the Perquimans County Trailblazers had disbanded and closed their checking account which had a balance of \$3,901.20. The Trailblazers have donated this money back to the County. Because these funds were not budgeted into the FY 2015-16 Budget, the Board would need to approve a budget amendment. On motion made by Kyle Jones, seconded by Fondella A. Leigh, the Board unanimously approved the following Budget Amendment No. 1:

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1
GENERAL FUNDS

Table with 4 columns: CODE NUMBER, DESCRIPTION OF CODE, INCREASE, DECREASE. Rows include 10-335-000 Miscellaneous Revenue (3,901 increase) and 10-500-150 Maintenance & Repair - Buildings (3,901 decrease). Includes an EXPLANATION row.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to discuss, the Special Called Meeting was adjourned on motion made by Matthew Peeler, seconded by Edward R. Muzzulin. The Chair proceeded with the Agenda for the Work Session.

Janice McKenzie Cole, Chair

Deputy Clerk to the Board
