

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 17, 2023**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles H. Jordan, Chairman
Barry Overman, Vice-Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Sean Lavin
Jonathan Meads
Sam Davis, III

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cecil Perry

OTHERS PRESENT: Sparty Hammett, County Manager
John Shannon, Assistant County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Mike Barclift, Management Fellow
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board
Shatoria Reid, Deputy Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Charles Jordan. Commissioner Sean Lavin gave the invocation and Jonathan Meads led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Jordan welcomed those in attendance.

1. OATH OF OFFICE:

The Honorable R. Andrew Womble, Superior Court Judge, administered the Oath of Office to new Commissioner Sam Davis, III. Commissioner Davis took his seat on the Board.

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Barry Overman requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee: 1) Approval of Leadership Training for EMS and Central Communications personnel and associated budget amendment; 2) Approval of award of contract for Weeksville Asset Inventory Project; 3) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for former Sheriff's Office employee; and 4) Commerce Park Farm Lease. County Attorney Mike Cox requested amending the agenda to add a Closed Session per [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)] To consider and give instructions concerning a judicial action titled The Col. William F. Martin Camp 1521, and the North Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. vs. Pasquotank County, North Carolina.

Chairman Jordan said due to the fact that Commissioner Perry requested restructuring be placed on the agenda, and he is out of town for a funeral, he would like to move the restructuring item to the February 6th agenda.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to amend the agenda to add Items #1-3 to the Consent Agenda, add Item #4 to New Business, add a Closed Session to the end of the meeting, and remove the restructuring item and place it on the February 6, 2023 agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY LINWOOD GALLOP:

Linwood Gallop spoke regarding his and other African Americans rights being violated, including him not being appointed to the Board of Commissioners, not naming the Newland Park after General Proctor, and 63 ECSU voting violations. He said he has filed a case regarding him not being appointed.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes of November 1, December 5, and December 19, 2022 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases and Refunds

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases and refunds:

Tax Releases

		County	City
1.	Jesse Carden T/A Precision Printing	613.54	589.63
2.	Jesse Carden T/A Precision Printing	620.68	590.65
3.	Spectrum Southeast LLC	3,416.23	
4.	Spectrum Southeast LLC	2,270.56	2,160.70
5.	Sampson Bladen Oil Co.	1,854.48	

Tax Refunds

		County	City
1.	Theresa Jane Burzawa	117.57	113.00
2.	Jerry Lee Meade	198.44	

c. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Documentation of Submission

The North Carolina Administrative Code requires that each CSBG recipient submit its Community Anti-Poverty Plan (grant application) to each County Commissioner Board that it serves. A complete copy of the Anti-Poverty Plan submitted by the Economic Improvement Council for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 has been provided to the Board for information purposes, and as a notification of their intent to apply for the funds.

d. Approval of Leadership Training and Associated Budget Amendment

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of Leadership Training for Central Communications and Emergency Medical Services personnel at a total cost of \$10,497 using contingency Funds, as well as the associated budget amendment below:

Decrease 010.6900.5991.00 Contingency \$10,500.00
Increase 010.4325.5310.00 Travel \$ 5,250.00
Increase 010.4370.5311.00 Training \$ 5,250.00

e. Approval of Award of Contract for Weeksville Asset Inventory Project

The Finance Committee has recommended approval to award the Weeksville Asset Inventory Project to Green Engineering at a not to exceed cost of \$150,000 using the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Grant funds.

f. Approval of Amendment to Agreement with Former Sheriff's Office Employee

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of an amendment to the agreement with former Sheriff's Office Deputy Travis Jackson.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Lloyd Griffin to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Vice-Chairman Overman, Chairman of the Appointments Committee reported that the Appointments Committee met today and has made the following recommendation:

- a) Newland Water Management and Watershed Improvement Advisory Board – Appoint Glenn Weeks to replace Richard Parker.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin accept the nomination of Glenn Weeks to the Newland Water Management and Watershed Improvement Advisory Board. This appointment will need to lie over until the next meeting to allow for additional applications.

6. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Chairman Jordan presented the following list of committee appointments for 2023 as follows:

Internal Committees	Charles Jordan	Barry Overman	Cecil Perry	Jonathan Meads	Sam Davis	Sean Lavin	Lloyd Griffin
Finance Committee	x	xx	x	x	x	x	x
Governance Committee		x	xx				x
Board Appointments Committee	x	xx	x				
Building & Grounds Committee				xx	x		x
Personnel Committee	xx	x	x				
Special Projects Committee		x	xx			x	
Water Committee				x		xx	x
Solid Waste/Landfill Committee	xx			x	x		
Commerce Park Ad Hoc				x		x	xx
xx Chairman							
x Committee Member							
Two private citizens are appointed to the Solid Waste/Landfill Committee: Dennis Herring, Melvin Reid							

Board Appointments	Charles Jordan	Barry Overman	Cecil Perry	Jonathan Meads	Sam Davis	Sean Lavin	Lloyd Griffin
Albemarle Commission							x
Animal Control Board					x		
Central Communications		x					
COA			x				
District Jail Commission	x		x				
Drainage Committee	x						
EDC	x					x	x
EC Chamber	x						
EC Downtown						x	
EMS		x		x			
Greenways					x		
Health Board			x				
Highway 17							x
Inter County Transit Authority			x				
Human Relations Commission					x		
Joint Recreation Advisory Committee	x					x	
Local Emergency Planning		x					
Newland Water Management						x	
NRAB – Trillium (Mental Health)	x						
Pasquotank Library (ex officio)	x						
Public Safety		x					
Joint Redevelopment Commission				x			x
Region R Workforce Investment							x
RC&D				x			
RPO							x
Social Services		x					
SPCA					x		
Tourism		x					

He noted that Mr. Melvin Reid who he appointed to the Solid Waste/Landfill Committee is in attendance this evening.

7. COMMERCE PARK FARM LEASE:

Commissioner Meads asked that he be recused from considering this item due to a conflict of interest.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Sam Davis to recuse Commissioner Meads from considering the Commerce Park farm lease due to a conflict of interest. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Overman explained that six bids were submitted for the Commerce Park Farm lease. The bids ranged from \$98 per acre to \$186 per acre. The \$186 per acre bid was submitted by Justin T. James d/b/a James Farms. The Board previously agreed the new farm lease would be 5-years. The Finance Committee has recommended the 5-year lease be awarded to Justin T. James d/b/a James Farms. Due to the fact the lease will extend beyond one year, a 30-day notice will have to be placed in the newspaper prior to execution of the lease, and final approval will be brought back to the Board.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sam Davis to award the 5-year lease for farming the Commerce Park to Justin T. James d/b/a James Farms for \$186 per acre. A 30-day notice will have to be placed in the newspaper prior to

execution of the lease and final approval will be brought back to the Board on March 6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

8. CALENDARS:

Clerk to the Board, Lynn Scott notified the Board that the Annual Soil & Water Luncheon has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at noon.

9. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Davis thanked the Board for their support and giving him the opportunity to serve again as a county commissioner. Having done this once before, he feels he can fall right in and make it an easy transition for everyone. He said he looks forward to working with everyone.

Commissioner Griffin welcomed Commissioner Davis to the Board. He stated that his meetings are coming up later in the month. He said he is starting to see some activity through the Department of Commerce. The state is actively recruiting industries, and hopefully, Pasquotank County will be beneficiaries to some of that. The Albemarle Commission is starting to see growth. Approximately \$12 million has been funneled through the ARP over the past year to help fund Aging and Workforce Development. College of the Albemarle is moving forward with the healthcare simulation lab. Hopefully, by the end of this year, the project will receive additional funding through the legislature.

Commissioner Meads attended the swearing in ceremonies for District Court Judge Jeff Moreland, NC House Representative Bill Ward, and NC Senator Norm Sanderson. He said he had a great meeting with Senator Sanderson and believes that he will be a great asset to Pasquotank County. Additionally, he attended the Nixonton VFD Annual Dinner.

Commissioner Lavin said his meetings will start later in the week. He said unfortunately he missed the Providence VFD Dinner because he had a prior engagement. He thanked the first responders who responded to the Mills on Christmas Eve to pick up his father-in-law who was having an episode. They were very timely and professional.

Vice-Chairman Overman attended a ribbon cutting at Port Discover. He also attended the Nixonton and Weeksville Volunteer Fire Departments' Annual Banquets. They were both well attended. He thanked them for what they do for their communities. He attended the DSS Board meeting. He thanked all the first responders who responded to the fatal fire on Millpond Road where three family members lost their lives. He said responders were on the scene for 16 hours.

Chairman Jordan attended ribbon cuttings for Bell Tone and Big Boss Burrito. He reminded his fellow Board members that there are a lot of ribbon cuttings and he would love to share them. He also attended the ECPPS Christmas concert, the Providence Volunteer Fire Department's Christmas Dinner, and the Trillium Governing Board and Trillium Regional Board meetings. They are still in the mist of working on the mental health plans. He participated in an interview panel for EMS. Additionally, he attended the Green Saves Green meeting. In addition to picking up trash in various areas of the County, they are identifying trails within the County. Lastly, he attended the Chamber of Commerce quarterly board meeting his morning.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Jordan asked for a motion to enter Closed Session per [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)] To consider and give instructions concerning a judicial action titled The Col. William F. Martin Camp 1521, and the North Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. vs. Pasquotank County, North Carolina.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin that the Board enter Closed Session per [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)] To consider and give instructions concerning a judicial action titled The Col. William F. Martin Camp 1521, and the North Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. vs. Pasquotank County, North Carolina. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Sam Davis to return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Griffin asked for a motion to enter Closed Session per [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)] To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in area served by this body.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Sam Davis to return to Closed Session to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the end of Closed Session;

Motion was made by Jonathan Meads, seconded by Sean Lavin to return to Regular Session. The motion carried unanimously.

There being nothing further to come before the Board;

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sam Davis to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD