

**OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**October 5, 2020**

The Members of the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Granville County, North Carolina met in a regular meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom conference call in order to adhere to the COVID-19 restrictions.

***Present via Zoom were:***

***Chairman:*** David T. Smith

***Commissioners:*** Ernie Anderson            Tony W. Cozart  
Sue Hinman                                    Zelodis Jay  
Timothy Karan

***County Manager:*** Michael S. Felts

***County Attorney:*** James C. Wrenn, Jr.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman David T. Smith called the meeting to order.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chairman Smith announced that Commissioner Edgar Smoak passed away on September 11, 2020. He served as a County Commissioner since December of 2010. A moment of silence was held in his memory.

**Proclamation in Honor and Memory of Commissioner Edgar Smoak**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Granville County and its citizens were saddened by the death of Edgar Smoak on September 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Edgar Smoak selflessly served Granville County as a Commissioner from December of 2010 until the time of his death. He served on several committees, which included the Area Mental Health Board, the Audit Review Committee and the Board of Equalization and Review. He also represented the County on Granville Health System's Board of Trustees, as well as serving as the Board's liaison for public safety, the Soil and Water Board, the South Granville Water and Sewer Authority, the Transportation Plan Work Group and the Board's liaison for water/sewer matters. He was also Chairman of the Granville County Opioid Advisory Committee, which he was instrumental in forming; and

**WHEREAS**, Edgar also served the Town of Butner. He was appointed to the Butner Advisory Council in 2000. He was instrumental in getting Butner incorporated, a process that concluded in 2007. He was then elected to serve on the Butner Town Council in 2009. He was also Chair of the Granville County Planning Board from 2003-2008; and

**WHEREAS**, Edgar spent his early childhood in Butner and moved back to the area in 1979. He graduated from East Carolina University and retired from North Carolina National Guard in 1998. He was instrumental in lobbying the North Carolina National Guard to assist in restoring abandoned cemeteries near Butner. He worked diligently to get the State to deed land to the County for a new cemetery known as South Granville Memorial Gardens and spent countless hours helping clear the land. He was one of the original trustees of South Granville Memorial Gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, Granville County and its citizens have benefitted from Edgar Smoak's knowledge, leadership and concern for his fellow citizens, and his contributions will forever serve as an example of untiring and dedicated public service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Granville County Board of Commissioners respectfully honors the life and memory of our fellow Commissioner, Edgar Smoak, and expresses sincere sympathy and condolences to the entire Smoak family during this time of great personal loss.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that we hereby express on behalf of the citizens of Granville County, deep appreciation and gratitude for the gifts of time, ability, and commitment given by Edgar Smoak in carrying out the duties of this Board.

**MEETING CONTINUED**

Chairman Smith gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BOARD WELCOMED COMMISSIONER ERNIE ANDERSON**

At this time, the Board welcomed Commissioner Ernie Anderson, District 5 appointment to fill the seat vacated by the death of Owen Roberts, to the Granville County Commissioners and thanked him for his dedication and commitment to Granville County.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Smith then recognized Clerk to the Board, Debra A. Weary, for a roll call. He then reminded Board members to identify themselves when speaking or making motions and also announced that votes would be done by a roll call by the Clerk.

**MEETING ZOOM BOMBED DURING CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Smith said the first item on the agenda was the consent agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Zelodis Jay and seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman to approve the consent agenda. He then called on Clerk Weary regarding the Dysautonomia Awareness Month Proclamation that was included.

At this time, the meeting was hacked, also known as Zoom bombed, and interrupted for approximately 50 minutes. Once staff gained control of the platform, the meeting resumed at approximately 7:55 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED**

Clerk Weary explained that Katie Haynes had contacted her with the information regarding Dysautonomia Awareness Month and the proclamation was included in the consent agenda.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Approved the Summary of Contingency and Use of Fund Balance report that showed the following balances:

General Contingency Balance	\$	73,750
School Bond D/S Contingency	\$	100,000
Environmental Disaster Contingency	\$	10,000
General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance	\$	3,948,870

- (B) Approved Budget Amendment #2 as recommended by the Finance Director:

**Budget Amendment #2  
10/05/2020**

*Be it ordained*, the FY 2020-2021 Annual Budget Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)			
Public Safety			
	Emergency Management	12,695	
	911 Operations	51,740	
Human Services			
	Social Services	41,831	
Contributions to Other Funds			
	Contingencies	(51,740)	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		54,526
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Restricted and Intergovernmental	93,526	
	Appropriated Fund Balance	(39,000)	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		54,526
E-911 Fund			
Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Phone System - Furniture	7,000	
	Software - Radio	50,000	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		57,000
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Appropriated Fund Balance	57,000	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		57,000

Budget Amendment #2				<b>Balance</b>	
<b>(For reference only)</b>					
General Fund/Board of Elections					
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3417	331	Election Adm Assistance Fund	\$39,000	\$39,000
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	(\$39,000)	\$3,909,870

*Description*: recognize receipt of the Election Administration Assistance Fund to be used by the Board of Elections.

General Fund/E-911					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4390	352	Repairs & Maintenance	\$51,740	\$121,640
10-	9910	991	General Contingency	(\$51,740)	\$22,010

*Description*: Fund annual E-911 radio maintenance contract with Motorola, as approved by the Granville County BoCC on September 8, 2020.

General Fund/DSS					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	5300	638		\$38,903	\$38,903
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					

10-	3538	342		\$38,903	\$38,903
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*Description:* To recognize receipt of COVID Stipend 2020 for CPS/APS from DHHS.

General Fund/DSS					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	5300	623	Energy Neighbor (CP&L)	\$2,928	\$2,928
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					
10-	3538	332	Public Assistance	\$2,928	\$426,690

*Description:* To update funding for energy public assistance.

General Fund/JCPC					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	8580	108	Community Connections (Youth Villages)	\$73,813	\$73,813
10-	8580	146	JCPC - Trail to Success	\$17,533	\$17,533
10-	8580	108	Community Connections (Youth Villages)	\$96,424	\$96,424
10-	8580	107	Initial JCPC Allocation	(\$187,770)	\$29,235
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					
10-	3583	331	Community Connections (Youth Villages)	\$59,456	\$59,456
10-	3583	342	JCPC - Trail to Success	\$15,414	\$15,414
10-	3583	331	Community Connections (Youth Villages)	\$96,424	\$96,424
10-	3583	329	Initial JCPC Allocation	(\$171,294)	\$9,543

*Description:* To reflect FY 2021 Program Agreement funding from DPS for Community Connections and Trails to Success.

General Fund/Emergency Management					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4330	610	EMPGS - COVID Relief	\$12,695	\$12,695
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					
10-	3327	370	EMPGS - COVID Relief	\$12,695	\$12,695

*Description:* to recognize funding the EMPGS - Covid Relief Grant - CFDA#97.042 - EMA-2020-EP-00016 from North Carolina Emergency Mgmt.

E-911 Fund					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
27-	4501	357	Radio	\$50,000	\$57,000
27-	4500	510	Capital Asset	\$7,000	\$84,000
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					
27-	3991	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$57,000	\$57,000

*Description:* To fund an additional work station at the Wilton back up 911 station, as approved by the Granville County BoCC on Dec 2, 2019. Invoicing did not occur until September 2020.

(C) Approved the Grant Project Ordinance-Coronavirus Relief Fund Project-Amendment #1:

**Grant Project Ordinance  
 COVID-19 (Coronavirus Relief Fund) Project  
 Budget Amendment # 1 (during Fiscal Year 2020-2021)  
 (Budget Amendment # 1 for grant project ordinance)**

***Be it ordained,*** the Coronavirus Relief Fund Project Budget Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

<b>Revenues: Increase / (Decrease)</b>			
CRF (Covid 19 Relief Fund)		\$	(1,233,427)
Transfer from General Fund			1,233,427
	<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$	<b>20,000</b>
	<b>(For Reference Only)</b>		
			<b>Balance</b>
Revenue Increase/ (Decrease)			
30-3328-300	Covid-19 Relief Fund	\$	(1,233,427)
30-3990-010	Transfer from General Fund		1,233,427

**Description:** To reflect awarding of first phase of CRF funding (\$1,233,427) that was received in FY 2020 (prior to the adoption of this grant project ordinance). No COVID -19 related expenditures incurred in FY 2020 will be covered under this grant.

**RESTATEMENT OF BUDGET LEVELS**

**Grant Project Ordinance  
COVID-19 Relief Fund Project  
(For County Auditors Reference)**

Expenditures		Revenues	
Town of Butner	\$ 216,898	COVID-19 Relief Fund	\$1,173,075
City of Creedmoor	125,939	Transfer from General Fund	1,233,427
City of Oxford	229,530		
Town of Stem	17,706		
Town of Stovall	11,502		
Gran-Vance Public Health	674,877		
Granville Health Systems	635,000		
Granville Co. Medical, Public Health, Payroll and Facilitative	495,000		
	Total Expenditures	Total Revenues	\$2,406,502
	\$2,406,452		\$2,406,502

- (D) Approved minutes of the August 3, 2020 Regular Meeting.
- (E) Approved the *Resolution of the Granville County Board of Commissioners Regarding the 2024 Revaluation* that moves Granville County to a six-year revaluation cycle as approved at the September 8, 2020 Board meeting as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF THE GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGARDING THE 2024 REVALUATION**

**WHEREAS,** North Carolina General Statute § 105-286, "Time for general reappraisal of real property," states that each county must reappraise all real property in accordance with uniform appraisal guidelines as of January 1 of the year set out in the statute and every eighth (8th) year from that date; and

**WHEREAS,** North Carolina General Statute § 105-286 authorizes the Board of Commissioners, by resolution, to conduct a reappraisal of real property earlier than required; and

**WHEREAS,** Granville County is currently on an eight (8) year cycle of revaluation, with the last general appraisal being conducted as of January 1, 2018; and

**WHEREAS,** it is in the best interests of the citizens of Granville County to advance the date for revaluation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Granville County shall advance its current eight (8) year appraisal cycle to a six (6) year appraisal cycle, with the effective date of the next appraisal being January 1, 2024.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution shall be promptly forwarded to the NC Department of Revenue's Local Government Division once enacted.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this six (6) year appraisal cycle shall remain in effect until such time as the Board of Commissioners enacts a resolution to change the cycle.

- (F) Approved the request to transfer services badges to Doug Logan, Retired Emergency Services Director, and Donnie Boyd, Retired Fire Marshal.
- (G) Approved the Proclamation for Dysautonomia Awareness Month in October as follows:

## A PROCLAMATION FOR DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia is a group of medical conditions that result in a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system, which is responsible for "automatic" bodily functions such as respiration, heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, temperature control and more; and

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia impacts over 70 million people around the world, and includes conditions such as Diabetic Autonomic Neuropathy, Vasovagal Syncope, Pure Autonomic Failure, and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome; and

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia impacts people of any age, gender, race or background, including many individuals living in Granville County; and

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia can be very disabling and this disability can result in social isolation, stress on the families of those impacted, and financial hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia can result in death, causing tremendous pain and suffering for those impacted and their loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, increased awareness about dysautonomia will help patients get diagnosed and treated earlier, save lives, and foster support for individuals and families coping with dysautonomia in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Dysautonomia International, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of patients living with dysautonomia, encourages communities to celebrate Dysautonomia Awareness Month each October around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, we seek to recognize the contributions of medical professionals, patients and family members who are working to educate our citizenry about dysautonomia in Granville County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Granville County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of October as **DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH**.

### **BOARD HEARD PRESENTATION ON ISO RATE REDUCTIONS**

Chairman Smith recognized Emergency Services Director Jason Reavis for a presentation on the recent ISO inspection. Mr. Reavis spoke from the following PowerPoint presentation:



### 3 AREAS EXAMINED DURING THE PROCESS

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- Water Supply
- Communication Center
- Fire Departments
  - Staffing Levels
  - Sufficient Equipment
  - Proper Maintenance of Equipment
  - Communication Ability
  - Training / Drills
  - Attendance at Meetings
  - Etc.....

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  - Etc.....

### COMMUNICATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

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- Score went from a 7.57 in 2015 to a 9.29 now
- The highest they can get is a 10
- Circuit Monitoring (Very Costly) is their only major deficiency.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT RATINGS

Fire Department	Old Rating	New Rating
Antioch	9S	6/9E
Berea	9S	6/9E
Brassfield	9S	6/9E
Bullock	9S	5/9E
Corinth	9S	5/9E

## FIRE DEPARTMENT RATINGS

Fire Department	Old Rating	New Rating
Cornwall	9S	6/9E
Granville Rural	9S	5/9E
Providence	9S	4/9E
Stem *	4/9S	5/9E
Stovall	9S	5/9E

Class 6 to Class 1 offer same savings for residential insurance

## COMMUNITY ZONES

- Zone 1 (properties within 5 miles of a fire department)
- Zone 2 (properties between 5 and 6 road miles from the fire department)
- Zone 3 (properties greater than 6 road miles) (Class 10 –no fire protection rating)

## SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THAT MADE THIS SUCCESSFUL

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- All the Fire Departments that made this a huge success.
- Byron Currin - Soil and Water
- Sandy Woody – Addressing
- Trent Brummitt and his team – 911 Center
- Ken Reeves – Fire Marshal Office

## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

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- Continue Training
- Documentation
- Obtaining Equipment
- Obtaining More Water Points
- Etc.....

Mr. Reavis commended the fire departments for the hard work they have put in to improve their ratings which lowers insurance for property owners.

Commissioner Anderson asked about Creedmoor not being on the list.

Mr. Reavis said that the municipalities – Creedmoor, Butner, and Oxford – had recently had their inspections and were not in this inspection.

Commissioner Hinman noted that she had recently seen Berea Fire Department training at West Oxford Elementary in the parking lot even though they had just gotten a wonderful rating.

Mr. Reavis said that the fire departments are continuously working to improve safety and efficiency. He noted the people should see savings on their insurance bills December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Jay said the fire departments have come a long way and are doing a terrific job.

Chairman Smith thanked all the firemen in Granville County and commended them for their dedication as volunteers.

**DURING PUBLIC COMMENTS, ONE SPOKE ABOUT DISCHARGING FIREARMS NEAR SUBDIVISIONS**

**Stacey Russell, 2563 Conyers Road, Franklinton, NC,** asked the Board to consider an ordinance for discharging firearms near residences. She said this is not a Second Amendment issue as it deals with possession. She talked about pictures of shots that had been made on her property that hit a vehicle and her back door. She talked about this being a community safety issue as the amount of shooting near her subdivision is ridiculous. She said there has been a gun qualification class held near her home and noted that there are schools nearby. She said her property has had \$2000 in damages from shootings, she has lost her 11% discount on her insurance, and her insurance premium has increased. She urged the Board to consider an ordinance regarding discharging firearms near residences as next time it could be a human life that is affected.

**AFTER HOLDING PUBLIC HEARING, BOARD APPROVED EVALUATING OPPORTUNITY FOR SUBMITTING A CDBG APPLICATION FOR PROJECT OONA**

Chairman Smith stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to obtain citizen input into the identification of economic needs and desired economic development activities. The input from the public hearing will be incorporated into the County's consideration and submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Department of Commerce.

At this point, Chairman Smith declared the public hearing open and recognized Harry Mills, Economic Development Director, to provide an overview of the project.

**Harry Mills, Economic Development Director, 310 Williamsboro Street, Oxford, NC,** stated that NCGS 158-7.1 requires a public notice that was completed prior to the public hearing. He said that Economic Development Department/Granville County was considering applying to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for economic development for a manufacturing company known as Project Oona. Applications for CDBG assistance must show that at least 60% of the CDBG funds proposed for each activity will benefit low and moderate income persons. He noted that following the public hearing, he would ask the Board to consider authorizing the Economic Development staff to continue evaluating the possibility of a CDBG application for Project Oona.

Chairman Smith asked if anyone wanted to speak. There were none wishing to speak.

With no one else wishing to speak, Chairman Jay closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Hinman asked for clarification if this was a building reuse grant.

Mr. Mills said that a building reuse grant was applied for, but this has been designated as a new CDBG application rather than a building reuse grant.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Ernie Anderson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved authorizing the Economic Development Department staff to continue evaluating the opportunity to submit a CDBG application for Project Oona.

**BOARD APPROVED DONATION OF SURPLUS DETENTION CENTER FOOD AND CLOTHING TO LOCAL CHARITIES**

Chairman Smith explained that the County Detention Center operations moved today to the new facility. As part of the transition efforts most food items have been utilized, however some food items remain. The County has entered into a contract with Aramark to provide meal services at the new detention center and some of the remaining food items will not be needed under this new contract arrangement. Detention staff has also identified some surplus inmate clothing items which have not been used in the past and do not meet the current standards used by the County. The Sheriff and Detention Administrator have requested authorization to donate surplus food and clothing items to local charity organizations.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the donation of surplus detention center food and clothing items to local charity organizations.

**BOARD APPROVED EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR THE GRANVILLE ATHLETIC PARK**

Chairman Smith explained that the Granville Athletic Park's (GAP) current topdresser unit was purchased approximately 10 years ago used and needs to be replaced due to normal wear and tear. The topdresser is required to maintain the ballfields and soccer fields at the GAP. Park staff have obtained three quotes as listed below.

Revels Turf and Tractor, LLC	\$18,681.25
Finch Services Incorporated	\$19,840.00
Greenville Turf & Tractor	\$23,866.06

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ernie Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of a DAKOTA 414

topdresser with spinners and rear metering door from Revels Turf and Tractor, LLC in the amount of \$18,681.25 for the GAP.

**BOARD APPROVED RADIO PURCHASE FOR DETENTION CENTER STAFF**

Chairman Smith explained that during the regular meeting held on August 3, 2020, the Granville County Board of Commissioners approved a detention center transition plan which authorized additional Detention Center staff. Additional radios are needed for the additional staff and to serve as backup radios. A quote from Radio Communications Company (RCC) for the purchase of Viking Portable radios to match existing equipment used by other detention staff was in the agenda packet. RCC is the Detention Center's current vendor for radio equipment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Ernie Anderson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of VP5430 Viking portable radios, rapid chargers, and associated speaker microphones from Radio Communications in the amount of \$23,840.25 for Detention Center staff.

**BOARD APPROVED PURCHASE OF COMPUTER REPLACEMENTS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES**

Chairman Smith said the next item on the agenda was to purchase computer replacements and secure VPN (Virtual Private Network) connection licenses for Social Services to remain in compliance with Granville County's IT Policy. He explained that in order to maintain the highest degree of security and productivity, Granville County's IT Policy strongly encourages computer equipment replacement every 4 years. The ability to telework remotely requires a secure VPN and the purchase of additional VPN licenses will allow additional Social Services staff to telework. Funding is included in the current budget.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved purchasing computer replacements from State contract vendor SHI for an amount up to \$57,000.00, and approved purchasing 20 VPN licenses from NetMotion Wireless for \$6,000.00.

**BOARD APPROVED 275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE SOUVENIR BOOK PRODUCTION**

Chairman Smith said Granville County will soon be marking a celebratory milestone, as the 275th anniversary of the area's founding will be observed in mid-2021. Local author Lewis Bowling has been contracted by Granville County Government and the County's 275th

Anniversary Committee to create a comprehensive collector-style book focusing on the history and development of the County. The book will soon be available for pre-sale to the public. Bowling's book will follow the development of Granville County from its early history to present day, with a narrative accompanied by photos that have yet to be seen by the public.

The 275th Anniversary Committee was established by Granville County Government to plan for this milestone observance. Representatives of all five municipalities, along with County officials, staff members and volunteers, comprise the committee, which has grown in number as plans are being made. Chairing the committee is Commissioner Sue Hinman, with Commissioner David Smith serving as Vice-Chair. Other committee members include Helen Amis (Oxford), Janet Parrott (Stovall), Dave Pavlus (Stem), Emily Champion (Butner), Toni Ann Wheeler (Creedmoor) and Commissioner Zelodis Jay. The 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee met on September 17<sup>th</sup> and reviewed several proposals for the book production services and selected BW&A Books' proposal.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved book production services with BW&A Books for the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary souvenir book for an amount up to \$47,841.00.

**BOARD APPOINTED RUSTY CORLEY (DISTRICT 6) AND JIMMY CREWS (DISTRICT 2) TO THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Rusty Corley (District 6) to the Agricultural Advisory Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Jimmy Crews (District 2) to the Agricultural Advisory Board.

**DOMINION ENERGY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – INFORMATION ITEM**

County Manager Felts said this is an information item of a draft Memorandum of Understanding from Dominion Energy for the Board to review. On September 22, 2020 the County Manager met with Julia Wright, Economic Development and Local Government Manager with Dominion Energy, to discuss Dominion Energy's commitment to delivering clean energy. Dominion Energy has committed to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Dominion Energy is supporting the expansion of renewables through significant

investments in solar energy, capturing of methane and converting it to renewable natural gas, and other innovative programs.

Dominion Energy would like to establish a coalition of partners to assist in meeting their stated goal. A proposed draft MOU for the County to consider along with some additional information from Dominion Energy was included in the agenda packet. Below is a list of other local governments Julia Wright has contacted to-date. Youngsville is expected to approve during their October or November meetings based on information provided. The other jurisdictions still have it under review.

- Chatham County, information sent for review
- Apex, information sent for review
- Carrboro – information sent for review
- Rolesville, information sent for review
- Youngsville, MOU to be placed on consent agenda Oct/Nov
- Louisburg, MOU tweaked and resubmitted
- Creedmoor, information sent for review
- Henderson, information sent for review
- Alamance County, information sent for review
- Wake Forest, information sent for review

Staff has not reviewed the MOU in detail nor have we followed up with other jurisdictions at this point. A staff recommendation will be made at a future meeting.

**BOARD APPROVED GRANVILLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR SCHOOL CAPITAL CONTINGENCY**

County Manager Felts said that the next item was to consider the school system's request for use of school contingency funds in the County budget that the County holds. During a recent inspection, it was determined that one of the boilers at the Stovall Shaw Elementary school does not function and should be replaced immediately. School staff also learned that by replacing both boilers now, the school system can save significant funds on labor and better modernize and integrate the two boilers for the entire campus.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Ernie Anderson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the use of \$100,000 school contingency funds for repairs of the Stovall Shaw Elementary School boiler system.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATED THE BOARD ON PROCESS FOR FILLING VACANCY ON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 153A-27**

County Attorney Wrenn explained that the Board must fill the District 7 vacancy created by the death of Edgar Smoak. By statute, the vacancy must be filled in 60 days and if it is not filled by the Board, the Clerk of Superior Court shall fill the vacancy in 10 days.

Before filling the vacancy, the Board shall consult with the Executive Committee of Mr. Smoak's political party committee, the Democratic Party. The Board is not bound by the recommendation, but must appoint someone from the Democratic Party.

After discussion about filling the vacancy, by consensus the Board authorized the County Manager and/or County Attorney to notify the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party for a nomination of someone to fill the District 7 vacancy noting that the nomination must be received by October 19<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting.

When asked, Chairman Smith said that the replacement will be made at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **BOARD PRESENTATIONS**

Commissioner Hinman thanked the Berea Fire Department for training even after the ratings were received. She mentioned concerns with the meeting being hacked and what could be done to prevent it from happening again.

Commissioner Cozart said he hoped everyone is staying well.

Commissioner Anderson thanked the Board for his appointment to the Board of Commissioners and said he was proud to serve until December when whoever is elected will be sworn in.

Commissioner Karan reported on the recent School Liaison meeting that Commissioner Cozart, County Manager Felts and he attended. Pre-K, kindergarten and EC classes are back at school following a split schedule. They are anticipating everyone back in school by October 12. Masks will be provided for students, mask breaks will be implemented in the schedule, and social distancing will be followed. He reported an increase in retirements and decrease in student enrollment. He also talked about the consolidation of schools in the southern end of the county that the School Board is addressing with Wilton Elementary and Creedmoor Elementary and possibility of redoing of Hawley Middle School.

Commissioner Anderson mentioned concerns about students not being in classrooms since March and what will happen when they return to school.

Commissioner Karan said he would pass that along.

Chairman Smith reported that Assistant County Manager Weichel, Commissioner Jay and he attended the Nifty 90s event on Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. He said that 47 aged ninety-plus attended the drive-thru even and it was a fun-filled hour.

Commissioner Jay talked about the comments made by Commissioner Karan regarding Hawley Middle School. He said that Wilton Elementary, Tar River Elementary and Mount Energy Elementary are all close together and noted there are three high schools in the County that are not full. He mentioned the possibility of making Granville Central High School a middle school.

Commissioner Cozart said that teachers are under tremendous pressure due to COVID.

**COMMISSIONERS ADJOURN**

Chairman Smith thanked those that attended. He apologized for the hacking interruption and said staff will look at ways to prevent it from happening.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ernie Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debra A. Weary, NCCCC, MMC  
Clerk to the Board

*APPROVED BY:*

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*David T. Smith, Chairman*