

Meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Commissioners Room of the Pratt Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Leach, Chairman  
 Harry Southerland, Vice Chairman  
 Tony Hunt  
 Robert Wright  
 Allen Thomas, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Letitia Edens, County Manager  
 Grady Hunt, County Attorney  
 Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Leach called the meeting to order with a quorum present and welcomed everyone.

Commissioner Hunt gave the invocation and Vice Chairman Southerland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chairman Leach told the Board that Item 2a (Minutes from May 2, 2016 meeting) needed to be removed from the agenda because that meeting was not adjourned, but recessed until 9:00 Monday, May 16, 2016; therefore the minutes are incomplete.

**Motion: Commissioner Hunt made a motion to remove Item 2a from the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Thomas.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Commissioner Hunt made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Commissioner Wright.**

**Action: The motion was carried 5-0.**

**ITEM 2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. ~~Minutes from May 2, 2016 meeting~~ (Removed)
- b. NC Vehicle Tax System Report
- c. Finance:
  - 1. Budget Amendments
  - 2. Declare as Surplus items from the Sheriff's Department
- d. Emergency Communications:
  - 1. Maintenance contract from Century Link for the radio console in the backup 911 center. Contract reviewed by County Attorney.
- e. Emergency Management:

Resolution to adopt Hazard Mitigation Plan (needs approval by 5/31/2016)

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve items b-e on the consent agenda, seconded by Vice Chairman Southerland.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

### **ITEM 3. TAX COLLECTOR**

- a. Tax Collector's Report – Daphne Dudley

5/16/2016

Tax Levy 2016		\$26,576,304.47
Additons to Levy YTD		\$733,347.58
Total 2016 Levy to Date		\$27,309,652.05
Refunds 2016		\$59,513.27
Releases/Abatements		\$15,105.30
Discounts		\$367,748.82
Adjustments		\$3,825.00
Write Offs		\$8.92
Advertising Charged 2016 Tax Bills		\$4,290.00
Collectable Levy to Date		\$27,301,932.75
<b>Collected To Date</b>		<b>\$25,739,751.99</b>
Uncollected Balance 2016 Tax Levy (1)		<u><b>\$1,562,180.76</b></u>

Collections April2016	<b>\$277,534.26</b>	
Releases April2016	<b>\$265.92</b>	
Percent of Levy Collected (Receipts)	<b>94.28%</b>	
Percent of Levy Collected (Releases, Etc.)	<b>0.06%</b>	

Prior Years Tax Levy April1, 2016		\$2,561,855.25
Prior Years Collected in April2016 To Date		<b>\$1,079,878.86</b>
Uncollected Balance Before Releases		\$1,481,976.39
Refunds		\$3,624.06
Releases/Abatements		\$7,003.84
Discounts		\$1.33
Adjustments		\$1,727.00
Write Offs/Insolvent		\$37,550.66
Uncollected Balance Prior Years (2)		<u><b>\$1,462,034.55</b></u>

Prior Years Collected in April2016	<b>\$86,812.90</b>	
Releases Prior Years April2016	<b>\$770.00</b>	
Percent Prior Years Collected (Receipts)	<b>42.15%</b>	
Percent Prior Years Collected (Releases.Etc.)	<b>0.65%</b>	
Total Uncollected Taxes (1+2)		<u><b>\$3,024,215.31</b></u>

**2014 Taxes**

Tax Levy April2015		\$25,804,091.74
Collections April2015		<b>\$214,245.22</b>
Releases April2015		\$269.09
Percent Collected (Receipts)	<b>94.09%</b>	
Percent Collected (Releases,Etc.)	<b>0.18%</b>	
Prior Years Tax Levy April2015		\$2,320,232.46
CollectionsApril2015		<b>\$87,831.61</b>
Releases April2015		\$1,239.13
Insolvent		\$35,347.34
Percent Collected (Receipts)	<b>35.81%</b>	
Percent Collected (Releases,Etc.)	<b>0.99%</b>	

b. Mrs. Dudley presented Resolutions Authorizing the Advertisement of an Offer to Purchase Certain Property for three surplus properties that the County has received offers on:

1. Otis Lane, parcel #584860001118, \$1,000,
2. Blue Springs Road, parcel #294220001091, \$1,000, and
3. S. Highland Road, parcel #294310001199, \$1,000

**Motion: Commissioner Hunt made a motion to authorize the advertisement of an offer to purchase property located at Otis Lane, Parcel 584860001118, in the amount of \$1,000, Blue Springs Road, Parcel 294220001091, in the amount of \$1,000, and S. Highland Road, Parcel 294310001199, in the amount of \$1,000, seconded by Vice Chairman Southerland.**

**Action: The motion was carried 5 - 0.**

**ITEM 4. TAX ASSESSOR’S REPORT**

Mrs. Jennie Gibson presented the following Releases:

Brian S. Dalton	2014	Military Exemption	24.86
Brian S. Dalton	2015	Military Exemption	22.92
		Total:	47.78

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the releases as presented by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Vice Chairman Southerland.**

**Action: The motion was carried, 5-0.**

**ITEM 5. UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Hilton Villines presented a Service Agreement for The Commons at Bridgeport. The Service Agreement has been reviewed by the County Attorney.

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the Utilities Service Agreement for The Commons at Bridgeport, seconded by Vice Chairman Southerland.**

**Action: The motion was carried 5 - 0.**

**ITEM 6. SANDHILLS CENTER**

Ms. Victoria Whitt, CEO of Sandhills Center, began by recognizing Vice Chairman Southerland for his work on the Sandhills Board. Ms. Whitt then presented the Board with the 2017 budget request for Sandhills Center. The Sandhills Center Board met earlier this year and decided to

request the same amount this year as in previous years from each of their nine counties. Their request is \$58,000. Historically, the County's contribution goes to Daymark Recovery, which operates the Crisis Center on Elwood Avenue. The Crisis Center provides services to the 285 citizens of Hoke County that have been identified as indigent. This year some funding could go toward other mental health and behavioral health needs in Hoke County.

Ms. Whitt continued by telling the Board that the State is again exploring the idea of consolidating the LMEACOs. There are eight in North Carolina now; the State of NC desires three. The State's plan is for Sandhills to merge with Alliance, which covers Wake, Durham, Johnston and Cumberland counties. This idea was originally introduced in 2013 and the Sandhills Center Board did not think that a merger with Alliance would be in Sandhills' best interest. Vice Chairman Southerland agreed that a merger with Alliance would not be a good fit for Hoke.

## **ITEM 6. MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Manager sits on the TCC Board through the Council of Governments. Hoke County needs to prepare a comprehensive transportation plan with the NC Department of Transportation. A committee of citizens needs to be established to give input. Mrs. Edens would like for the Commissioners to each suggest a person from the community to be on that committee.

## **ITEM 7. CLOSED SESSION**

No Closed Session was held this evening.

## **ITEM 8. RECESS**

There being no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Wright made a motion to recess until 9:00 am Tuesday, May 17, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting was recessed at 8:00 p.m.

Recessed meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners from Monday, May 16, 2016 to Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 9:00 am in the Commissioners Room of the Pratt Building for the purpose of budget discussions with department heads.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Leach, Chairman  
Tony Hunt  
Robert Wright  
Allen Thomas, Jr

OTHERS PRESENT:

Letitia Edens, County Manager  
Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Harry Southerland, Vice Chairman

Chairman Leach called the recessed meeting back to order at 9:00 am with Commissioner Hunt giving the invocation.

**Information Technology-Candace Pierce:** Mrs. Pierce said the department is on track with the budget for the current year. Telephone systems at Pratt Building and Jail are being replaced. Support and parts for the existing 3Com system is no longer available. For 2017, she'd like to reclassify one position from a grade 71 to 73. IT needs another Helpdesk employee. This person would start at a grade 68. Commissioner Hunt asked what the requirements would be for this position. Mrs. Pierce replied that they should have a 2-year degree or a certification. Also in 2017 IT needs to replace the telephone systems in the Armory, Sheriff's Department and Library. Mrs. Pierce also recommends that the county replace its e-mail system to an Office 365 system that would be more reliable with a guaranteed 99% up-time.

**Animal Control-Ralph Cecil:** Mr. Cecil said that during the current year, AC has seen a drop in the euthanasia rate. This is largely due to increased adoptions, fosters and rescues. For 2017, they need an increase in vehicle maintenance funds. Mr. Cecil's truck has over 150,000 miles on it. Chairman Leach commended the department on the work they're doing. He'd heard about their efforts, such as dressing up the pets and posing them with props. Chairman Leach also asked Mr. Cecil if they have to pick up wildlife in addition to domesticated animals. Mr. Cecil replied they are often called to remove snakes, raccoons, foxes and other wildlife, but that they must have a permit to euthanize them.

**Senior Services-Mary Hollingsworth:** Mrs. Hollingsworth said that they will end the year within their budget. For 2017, they need to increase their travel and training budgets to enable the staff to attend meetings and training sessions. They need to replace their printer. Senior room needs to be painted. Reduced pharmacy services funds and increased ensure funds. Senior Services needs a vehicle. They currently have a small truck, which is not conducive to carrying meals or carrying luggage on trips.

Commissioner Leach asked Mrs. Hollingsworth about the status of the waiting list for congregate meals and home-delivered meals. Currently there are 67 persons on the waiting list for home

delivery and 77 persons on the list for congregate meals. Each meal per senior costs \$879.65. Commissioner Wright asked how often there's turnover on the waiting list. Mrs. Hollingsworth replied that there is maybe one person per month that comes off the waiting list. Commissioner Hunt asked what it would cost the county to move 10 people up off the waiting list and on to the active list for congregate and move 10 people up on the home delivery list. Mrs. Hollingsworth said that to move 20 people up would cost approximately \$20,000 per year.

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to take 25 people off the waiting list and add to 10 to the congregate list and 15 to the home delivery list, seconded by Commissioner Thomas.**

**Action: The motion was approved unanimously.**

**JCPC-Betty Perkins:** The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council is requesting \$10,000 from the County as matching funds for State money.

**HATS-Nancy Thornton:** HATS expects to receive \$90,000 in capital funds from the State before June 30, 2016. For 2017 they expect to receive \$326,000. This funding passes through the State and provides the County with administration and capital funding. Mrs. Thornton is trying to obtain FTA grant funds through FAST that would enable construction to begin on the new HATS building in 2017.

Commissioner Hunt asked Mr. Ferguson about moving HATS from an Enterprise fund to the General fund. Mr. Ferguson explained that until FY 2016 funds had to be transferred from General fund to the Transportation fund to make up the difference in their revenues and expenditures. This unbudgeted transfer has resulted in a finding on the audit each year it was done. Mrs. Edens explained that with HATS in the General fund the deficit could be budgeted at the beginning of the year instead of having to clean it up at the end of the year.

An increase in HATS capital expenditures is needed because they have five vehicles due for replacement. The county pays 10% of the replacement cost and the state 90%. Mrs. Thornton is also requesting a new repeater base due to problems with their radio communications. Chairman Leach asked about the bus route to Fayetteville. Mrs. Thornton said that the most recent check they received for running the shuttle to Fayetteville was over \$8,000. That was for the month of March, 2016. This program runs through November, 2016. Mrs. Thornton added that she has been contacted by the State regarding routes to the area hospitals and possible routes to the VA offices in the state.

**Veterans Services-Jackie Halliburton:** Cumberland County is sending Veterans back to Hoke because we have a Veterans Services officer. The county's proximity to Fort Bragg makes us attractive to Veterans and Mr. Halliburton expects our population served to increase. The State wants the Veterans Services officers to assist in finding Veterans employment. Our office is seeing an increase in disabled veterans and women. Every time a Hoke Veteran makes a claim it goes to Winston-Salem and, once the decision is made, the packet is sent to our local office. Mr. Halliburton is now certified and has access to the VA computer system. Mr. Halliburton works 5 hours per day. An additional part-time employee would enable the office to be open 8 hours per

day. He would prefer a certified Veterans Services officer that has retired. Salary would be \$11 per hour with no benefits.

**Vehicle Maintenance-Charles Willis:** This year Vehicle Maintenance should come in slightly under budget. For 2017 the only change to the budget is a new line item for “disposal of waste oil”. Chairman Leach asked Mr. Willis what departments have the biggest need for vehicles. Mr. Willis replied that the Sheriff Department has several vehicles with high mileage. Utilities needs to replace several.

**NC Forestry Service-Bill Hellmuth:** The total budget for the Hoke County office of the NC Forestry Service is \$229,312. Of this, the State of NC pays \$137,587. They are requesting \$91,725 from Hoke County. Most of their budget is used for salaries and operating expenses. The department needs a utility vehicle. The Forestry Service helps with the Community Forest and Mr. Hellmuth would like to implement some educational programs.

**Communications-Jimmy Stewart:** As the population of Hoke County increases, so does the workload for the Communications Center. They need an additional Telecommunicator, with a salary of \$29,924 plus benefits. Part-time personnel haven’t had a raise in a long time. These employees are held to the same standards as full-time employees, requiring the same certifications and continuing education. Currently the hourly pay is \$12.37 per hour and Mr. Stewart would like to increase the rate to \$14.38 per hour. At present, there are five part-time employees. Mr. Stewart plans to schedule around peak times to improve their call-answering rate, which was formerly 97%, but is currently 90%.

Mrs. Edens asked Mr. Stewart about a possible grant-funded position. This position is an allowable cost that will be paid through the E-911 budget, which is for terror funds from the State. This employee will issue addresses and be a GIS assistant for Lisa Beal.

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the new grant position, seconded by Commissioner Thomas.**

**Action: The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Sheriff/Jail/Emergency Management-Hubert Peterkin, Nachia Revels, and Freddy Johnson:** Sheriff Peterkin said the current year will end on target with the budget, although some budget transfers will be required. With regard to the jail budget, medical care for the inmates has increased. Some inmates are being treated for cancer, receive dialysis, and pregnancies. This year’s contract for medical services has a maximum of \$80,000. Anything over \$80,000 the County is responsible for 100% of the cost. So far this year the jail has spent \$90,000. For 2017 the contract needs to be increased to \$90,000. Chairman Leach directed Garvin Ferguson and Major Revels to review their current year budget and submit any budget amendments as soon as possible to avoid any audit findings.

Mr. Johnson said that the Emergency Management budget is on track and Emergency Management will keep the same budget for 2017. Chairman Leach asked Mr. Johnson if his

storage issue was ever resolved and Mr. Johnson said that it wasn't. He has no storage space at all.

For the Sheriff's Department budget for 2017, Sheriff Peterkin is requesting one clerk to divide between the front office and the detectives. The Sheriff's Department needs additional detectives and road patrol. Extra deputies are needed for the courthouse. Two deputy positions, currently at Grade 64, need to be re-graded to Narcotics Investigators at Grade 67. Those salaries will increase approximately \$4,000 each per year.

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to regrade two deputies, Joshua Clark and James Smith from deputies at Grade 64 to Narcotics Investigators at Grade 67, effective with the next pay period, seconded by Commissioner Thomas.**

**Action: The motion was approved unanimously.**

Sheriff Peterkin said that the uniform budget will need to increase roughly \$2,000 to correspond to the new positions. Last year Sheriff Peterkin asked for 18 vehicles and received 5. With increased maintenance costs on older vehicles, this year they need as many as possible. Commissioner Hunt asked if the new vehicles go directly to road deputies. Chief Hammond replied that yes, the new vehicles go to road deputies first. Chairman Leach asked the Sheriff what is the cost per car. Chief Hammond said that each AWD car costs \$42,000 completely fitted out. The Sheriff continued by saying that his officers need pay increases. The City pays their officers much more than Hoke County. Chairman Leach asked the Sheriff what the average starting pay for a deputy in the surrounding counties. The Sheriff stated that he will provide a salary study to the Board today.

Major Revels added that the Jail needs to make a one-time purchase for a receptacle for storing evidence that is bloody. Sheriff Peterkin said this is an OSHA requirement.

Commissioner Wright asked the Sheriff if the computers in old vehicles can be transferred to new vehicles. The Sheriff said they can. Mrs. Edens then asked the Sheriff if, hypothetically, they received approval for 18 vehicles in the new budget, would they be able to dispose of 18 older vehicles. Chief Hammond answered that they cannot dispose of that many because they don't have enough spares. Commissioner Wright asked how many of the older vehicles would need to be kept. Chief Hammond answered that roughly nine of them would be needed to be kept for spares.

**Parks & Recreation-Kendrick Maynor:** Commissioner Wright said he'd like to add about 50 parking spaces at the 211 park. Mr. Maynor replied that they are using an "open field" schedule; there's always one field not being used at each park. Commissioner Wright said that, with extra parking, all the fields could be used and that would help to avoid scheduling late games for small

children. Commissioner Wright continued by saying that other counties have splash pads for the children at their parks and Hoke County's parks need them for our children to enjoy. Mr. Maynor replied that he has looked into the splash pads and has information on them. Commissioner Thomas said that community building rentals had been discussed by the Board and they want all rentals to go through the Parks & Recreation Department. Commissioner Wright added that there will not be a fee to use the buildings but there will be a \$100 refundable deposit to cover any cleaning or damage repair that might be needed. Commissioner Thomas asked what happens to the fees that were being charged to use the Rockfish building. Mr. Maynor replied that those fees were posted to a "Rents" line item in the Parks & Recreation budget. Commissioner Hunt said that we should continue to charge for rent of the fields. Commissioner Thomas said that improvements need to be made to the concessions building at the Burlington park. Mr. Maynor said that a Girl Scout troop has asked to paint the restrooms as a community service.

**DSS-Della Sweat:** Mrs. Sweat was accompanied by Carl Pevia and Charlotte Kelly from the DSS Board and several supervisors from DSS. Mrs. Sweat said that DSS should come in at budget for year-end 2016. NCFAS is adding child care, energy programs and non-emergency transportation (the contract with HATS) this year. Need to make sure they have staff in place to handle these changes. The ABAWD (Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents) program is being reimplemented on July 1. Participants must work or be in employment training a minimum of 80 hours per month. This program has to be monitored by the Food & Nutrition staff.

New regulations prohibit the use of temporary or contracted staff for eligibility determination. Persons in those positions must be permanent or time-limited employees. There are currently four temporary positions in Medicaid. Mrs. Sweat wants to keep those four employees and change their classification to time-limited, as well as add one more for a total of five. She also wants to add one time-limited Food & Nutrition Services lead worker. Commissioner Hunt asked for detail on what time-limited employment is. Mrs. Edens replied that, instead of using temps or contract employees, the County hires them for a period of time not to exceed twelve months. They are paid a salary in line with a permanent employee in the same capacity, but receive no benefits. In order to continue, the positions would have to be reauthorized during the budget process each year. Having time-limited staff prevents the County from being obligated to fund salaries and benefits for positions that may not be needed in the future. Per Mrs. Sweat's calculations, the cost to the County to provide benefits for time-limited employees is roughly \$7,600. Commissioner Thomas expressed concern that these time-limited employees would be working with permanent employees but not receiving benefits. Mrs. Edens explained that the time-limited employees know from the start that the job is not permanent and they benefit by being able to file for unemployment benefits if the job ends. Mrs. Sweat said that if the positions were brought on as permanent, and later may not be needed, they can fill vacancies as they occur due to normal turnover. Commissioner Hunt asked if the new positions would eliminate the need for overtime in the department. Mrs. Sweat said it would reduce overtime, but not eliminate it.

DSS is also asking for a permanent full-time Office Assistant III. Additionally, they want to install security cameras, bullet-proof glass in the reception area, a panic button to lock the doors if needed. They need to replace the telephone system and can receive reimbursement of

approximately 54% of the cost. DSS is requesting computer equipment to replace older equipment, a shredder, two copiers and office furniture to replace old furniture.

A line item has been added to the DSS budget to cover attorney fees for appeals.

**Motion: Commissioner Thomas made a motion to direct the County Manager to adjust the DSS portion of the FY 2017 Manager's Recommended Budget to include five Caseworker positions, one Food & Nutrition lead worker position and one Office Assistant III position as full-time permanent positions instead of time-limited positions.**

Chairman Leach recommended that, before directing the Manager to adjust the DSS budget, Commissioner Thomas needs to consult with Mrs. Sweat to make sure that any adjustments for positions do not adversely affect other parts of the DSS budget.

**Commissioner Thomas said he'd like to leave the motion as stated.**

Commissioner Hunt stated that, although motions have been made to clean up items in the current year budget, he would like to see the entire Manager's Recommended Budget for FY 2017 before mandating the County Manager to add positions.

**Motion: Commissioner Thomas made an amended motion that the Board of Commissioners recommends that the Manager includes in the DSS portion of the 2017 budget five permanent, full-time Income Maintenance Caseworker positions, one permanent, full-time Food & Nutrition lead worker position and one permanent, full-time Office Assistant III position, seconded by Commissioner Hunt on the condition that this is a recommendation to the Manager, not a mandate.**

**Action: The motion was approved unanimously.**

Mrs. Edens presented Board with bids for the renewal of the County's health insurance.

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the renewal of the County's insurance with NCACC in the amount of \$269,518, seconded by Commissioner Thomas.**

**Action: The motion was approved unanimously.**

**RECESS**

**Motion: Commissioner Wright made a motion to recess the meeting until 9:00 am Wednesday, May 18, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved unanimously.**

Recessed meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners from Tuesday, May 17, 2016 to Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 9:00 am in the Commissioners Room of the Pratt Building for the purpose of budget discussions with department heads.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Leach, Chairman  
Harry Southerland, Vice Chairman  
Tony Hunt  
Robert Wright

OTHERS PRESENT:

Letitia Edens, County Manager  
Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Allen Thomas, Jr.

Chairman Leach called the recessed meeting back to order at 9:00 am with Commissioner Hunt giving the invocation.

**Literacy Council-Carole Taitt:** Literacy serves 184 children with 61% currently reading at or above grade level. For the upcoming year the primary focus will be on children in grades 1, 2 and 3. Planning a book club for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders that will also incorporate social studies while working on reading and comprehension. Ms. Taitt has completed her B.S. in Business Administration at Fayetteville State University. Ms. Taitt is requesting her position as Director be regraded, resulting in a net salary increase of 3.6%.

**Museum-Mary N. King:** The museum board would like to increase their budget request from \$15,000 in previous years to \$20,000. This, along with an equal match by the City of Raeford, would enable them to hire a part-time curator to work twelve hours per week.

**Vice Chairman Southerland had to leave the meeting.**

**Hoke Re-Entry Council-Bernice McPhatter:** The budget request for FY 2017 totals \$30,000 and includes \$10,000 for Tri-County Services, \$5,000 Administration and \$15,000 for services (Housing, Transportation, Education, etc.). Mrs. McPhatter was accompanied by several Board members who described the services offered by the Re-Entry Council:

Ms. Lynn Baum – Hope for Hoke, which offers mental health support and a 24-hr. crisis line,  
Mr. Mike Westry - NC Works, provides employment outreach,  
Ms. India McDuffie – Maggie’s Outreach, assists with referrals for GED, computer basic skills training and resume preparation,  
Bishop Arthur Tripp, Sr. – Restoration House of Love, provides housing, and  
Jim Davis – Southeast Reentry Council, provides housing, education and social services.

**Sandhills Community College – Twana McKnight:** Not asking for increase. Would like funds to update the outdated security system (cost: \$26,223) and purchase a storage unit (\$7,000). Currently, Sandhills does not have a designated storage space for equipment and

supplies. They have been storing items in mechanical rooms. Ms. McKnight updated the Board on the Performance Contracting projects: They've received \$200,000 and these funds will be used to convert the exterior lighting to LED campus-wide, replace interior lighting in several buildings and replace the HVAC controls in Johnson and Upchurch Halls. Sandhills has also received a \$10,000 HVAC "Tune-ups" grant that has been used to update HVAC controls in SandHoke Hall.

Mr. David Averette, P.E., appeared before the Board to discuss changes he'd like to see implemented in the County's development requirements to make housing more affordable for Hoke County residents. Mr. Averette believes that property rights are important and there should be fewer attempts to regulate private property. The County should not regulate public streets as they are regulated by NC DOT. Sidewalks should not be required on private property or the NC DOT right-of-way. Delay the collection of fees until the end of the development process. Mr. Averette says that excessive regulations such as lot sizes and setbacks drive up costs that are ultimately passed on to homebuyers.

Mr. Jonathan Locklear, P.E., and Mr. Hilton Villines, Utilities Director, appeared before the Board to update them on the status of the erosion control situation on Best Street and Trudeau Avenue. Commissioner Hunt asked what needs to be done to protect the infrastructure on those streets. Mr. Locklear explained that the problem is with the lack of drainage on those streets. There's a big difference in the elevation from one end of the street to the other, especially on Best Street. There's no defined path for runoff. When there's a significant rainfall, the soil is washed away from over the water lines. In the past, the County has just taken more dirt to cover the lines back up. That process has been repeated over the past few years and the soil washes down into the bottom area where water would normally go. Mr. Locklear also reminded the Board that there's a 60' right of way that work must be done in. Commissioner Hunt asked Mr. Villines what the solution is. Mr. Villines replied that to do any repairs will require more money in the Utilities budget.

Mr. Locklear explained that the options for Best Street are to place a DOT-approved riprap lined cross-channel the full length from where the pavement stops to where the water line stops, which is approximately 3000'. This would provide a defined drainage system for the water and would direct it away from the water lines. The estimated cost for this option is \$1,180,000. The same option using a synthetic liner would cost approximately \$422,000. Another option is to work on the segment from where the pavement stops to the bottom of the hill, approximately 2000'. Installing a riprap lined channel would cost approximately \$837,000 and using a plastic liner approximately \$330,000. All options include paving. On Trudeau Avenue, installing a full-length cross-channel with riprap lining would cost approximately \$787,000; with a plastic liner \$282,000.

These estimates were prepared in January. With the recent increase in DOT and other projects, it might be difficult now to get a contractor to do the work and will possibly cost more. Mr. Locklear emphasized that these are only estimates and the design has not been completed.

Commissioner Hunt recommended that the Manager and Mr. Villines meet and determine the amount needed to budget.

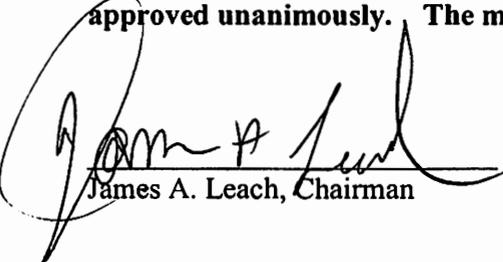
Chairman Leach asked the Manager about the budgets for Administration, Human Resources and Governing Body. Mrs. Edens replied that the Admin budget will increase slightly for professional services and contracts. Governing Body has a small increase in travel and funds budgeted for a new PA system for the Commissioners Room. Human Resources has an increase in professional services for mailings mandated by the Affordable Care Act and reduces by one position.

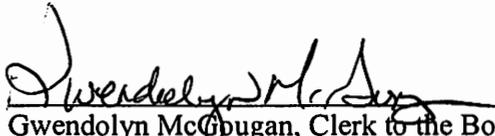
**Motion: Commissioner Hunt made a motion to schedule a special called meeting at 6:00 pm, June 2, 2016, at the Court Annex seconded by Commissioner Wright and approved unanimously.**

### **ADJOURN**

Chairman Leach thanked everyone for attending.

**There being no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Hunt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Wright and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.**

  
James A. Leach, Chairman

  
Gwendolyn McGugan, Clerk to the Board