

Vance County Board of Commissioners
Vance County Administration Building
122 Young Street, Suite B
Henderson, NC 27536



Robert M. Murphy
Interim County Manager

Telephone 252-738-2001
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Kelly H. Grissom
Clerk to Board

Telephone 252-738-2001

MEMORANDUM

To: Deborah F. Brown
Dan Brummitt
Terry E. Garrison
Thomas S. Hester, Jr.
Gordon Wilder
Eddie L. Wright

From: Kelly H. Grissom, Clerk to the Board *KG*

Date: March 10, 2015

Re: **Special Called Meeting**

This memorandum will serve as notice that Chairman Archie B. Taylor, Jr. has called a special meeting for Thursday, March 12 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. The purpose of the special meeting is to address the following:

1. Public Hearing - Extension of Bond Order
2. Establishment of Board Goals
3. Farmers Market Heating System
4. Community Gardens Project
5. Other Items as Needed
6. Closed Session - Personnel Matter

c: Chairman Archie B. Taylor, Jr.
Jonathan S. Care, County Attorney

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Vance, North Carolina, in its capacity as the governing body of the Vance County Water District, met in a special meeting in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Vance County Administration Building located at 122 Young Street, in Henderson, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting, at 5:00 on March 12, 2015.

Present: _____

Absent: _____

Also present: _____

* * * * *

_____ announced that this was the hour and day fixed by the Board of Commissioners for the public hearing upon the proposed extension of the bond order entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING \$27,000,000 WATER BONDS" and that the Board would immediately hear anyone who might wish to be heard on the question of whether the maximum time period for issuing bonds under such bond order should be extended from seven years to ten years.

A list of persons appearing to be heard on the questions of the validity of said order or the advisability of issuing said bonds and a summary of their statements and a list of persons that provided a written statement relating to said questions is set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto.

Thereupon, Commissioner _____ introduced the following order the title of which was read and copies of which had been distributed to each Commissioner.

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF A BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING \$27,000,000 WATER BONDS OF THE VANCE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

BE IT ORDERED by for the Board of Commissioners for the County of Vance, North Carolina, in its capacity as the governing body of the Vance County Water District (the "District"):

1. That, after a public hearing and due consideration by the Board of Commissioners, the maximum time period for issuing bonds under the order entitled "Order Authorizing \$27,000,000 Water Bonds" of the District, adopted by the Board of Commissioners on March 10, 2008 and approved by the vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the District who voted thereon at a referendum duly called and held on May 6, 2008, is hereby extended from seven years to ten years.

2. That this order shall take effect 30 days from the date of publication of said order.

Upon motion of Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, the order entitled: "ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF A BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING \$27,000,000 WATER BONDS OF THE VANCE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT" was read and placed upon its passage. The vote upon the passage of said order was:

Ayes: _____

Noes: _____

The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners was thereupon directed to publish said order, together with the appended statement as required by § 159-64 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended, once in The Daily Dispatch.

* * * * *

I, Kelly H. Grissom, Clerk to the Board for the Vance County Water District, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners for said District at a special meeting held on March 12, 2015, as it relates in any way to the holding of a public hearing and the adoption of an order authorizing the extension of a bond order authorizing water bonds of said District and that said proceedings are recorded in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners for said District.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that proper notice of such regular meeting was given as required by North Carolina law.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said County this 12th day of March, 2015.

Clerk to the Board

[SEAL]

EXHIBIT A

[A list of any persons making comments and a summary of such comments to be attached. If no comments are made, please insert "None".]

Established Goals. During the Board of Commissioners goal setting session February 11, 2015 several goals were established for FY 2015-16. Following the session each commissioner ranked the goals individually. The order of the goals below represents the highest and lowest priorities as established through this process:

1. Improve affordability of county water by increasing the number of customers by 5% and through other means by the end of FY 2016. (Commissioner Consensus) *In Progress - Water Committee*
2. Dispose of vacant, county owned buildings by the end of FY2016. (Commissioner Consensus) *In Progress - Properties Committee*
3. Reactivate discussions with the City of Henderson on management of the recreation department. (Recreation Ad-Hoc Committee) *Suspended*
4. Continue to plan for construction of a new animal shelter to replace the existing, inadequate facility within 2 years. (Commissioner Consensus) *In Progress - Public Safety Committee. Architect to be Approved at April Meeting*
5. Implement re-organization of Fire and EMS by July 1, 2015. (Commissioner Consensus) *Under Discussion*
6. Provide adequate funding to support Vance County Public Schools and Vance-Granville Community College to assist them with meeting or exceeding State standards in levels for student performance, program offerings, facilities, and maintenance to prepare students for 21st Century jobs or further training and education opportunities. (Commissioner Consensus) *Budget 2015-16*
7. Develop a strategic plan for the county. (Planning and Environmental Committee) *New*
8. Establish and express desired economic development outcomes for EDC Board for next two years. (Planning and Environmental Committee) *New*
9. Support consolidation of common services with surrounding governments. (General Government Committee) *New*

Recommendation: *Approve the nine goals as developed by the Board of Commissioners for FY 2015-16.*

Established Committee Priorities. Additionally through the goal setting process, the board through consensus determined several committee priorities for FY 2015-16 as follows:

- Human Resources Committee - Establish an employee rewards program for designing and/or implementing innovative program techniques that enhance quality and efficiency for delivery of services.
- Human Resources Committee - Establish a youth summer hire pilot program.
- General Government Committee – Explore opportunities for public forums and other meetings to be held offsite.
- General Government Committee - Support consolidation of common services with surrounding governments.
- Planning and Environmental Committee - Establish and express desired economic development outcomes for EDC Board for next two years.
- Planning and Environmental Committee - Develop a strategic plan for the county.
- Properties Committee – Secure a building to store county records.
- Recreation Ad-Hoc Committee - Reactivate discussions with the City of Henderson on management of the recreation department.
- Technology Committee - Explore ways to enhance the county website.
- Chairman’s Goal - Implement Annual Law Enforcement/Crime report to the board by the Sheriff, Police Chief and District Attorney.

Recommendation: *For Your Information*

Taylor	Wilder*	Garrison	Hester	Brummitt*	Brown	Wright	Average	Final Ranking	Commissioner Goals - 2015
6	1	4	2	4	5	1	3.29	2	Dispose of vacant, county owned buildings by the end of FY2016. (Commissioner Consensus)
4	2	1	3	1	3	3	2.43	1	Improve affordability of county water by increasing the number of customers by 5% and through other means by the end of FY 2016. (Commissioner Consensus)
5	3	9	1	5	7	2	4.57	4	Continue to plan for construction of a new animal shelter to replace the existing, inadequate facility within 2 years. (Commissioner Consensus)
3	4	5	7	6	1	7	4.71	5	Implement re-organization of Fire and EMS by July 1, 2015. (Commissioner Consensus)
1	5	6	6	2	2	6	4.00	3	Reactivate discussions with the City of Henderson on management of the recreation department. (Recreation Ad-Hoc Committee)
8	6	8	4	6	8	8	6.86	9	Support consolidation of common services with surrounding governments. (General Government Committee)
7	6	7	8	3	4	9	6.29	8	Establish and express desired economic development outcomes for EDC Board for next two years. (Planning and Environmental Committee)
9	6	2	5	6	6	4	5.43	6	Provide adequate funding to support Vance County Public Schools and Vance-Granville Community College to assist them with meeting or exceeding State standards in levels for student performance, program offerings, facilities, and maintenance to prepare students for 21st Century jobs or further training and education opportunities. (Commissioner Consensus)
2	6	3	9	6	9	5	5.71	7	Develop a strategic plan for the county. (Planning and Environmental Committee)

* Commissioners who ranked the top 5 were given a ranking of 6 for the remaining goals

Vance County Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting – Other Matters
March 12, 2015

Farmers Market Heating System. The Properties Committee evaluated quotes received for the installation of a heating system at the Farmers Market during its meeting on March 10. The Committee recommends awarding the project to Gupton Services at a price not to exceed \$20,000. Funds to pay for the project include a \$7,000 USDA grant, a \$5,000 Farm Bureau contribution, and the balance from remaining facility construction funds.

Committee Recommendation: Approve awarding the Farmers Market heating installation project to Gupton Services, Inc. at a price not to exceed \$20,000.

QUOTATION # 9320

GUPTON SERVICES, INC.
P.O. Box 90 - 134 Horner St.
Henderson, NC 27536
252-492-5131
Fax 252-492-5248

02/23/15

252-438-8188

Fax 252-492-3830

CUSTOMER# 2684
Maurice White
Vance County - 305 Young Office B
305 Young Street
Henderson, NC 27536

State License No. 10286 H-1.2 & 3 Class I

Maurice White/305 Young Street

Quote by MICHAEL J ETHERIDGE

QUANTITY	UNITS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	EXTENSION
1.00		Farmer's Market - Install 6 Rad Heaters -----	17400.00	17400.00
		> Hang Six 82%, 75,000 Btu Gas Radiant Heaters In Vendor Area 16' Above Floor		
		> PSNC Will Install New Gas Meter Rated to Handle BTU's Of New Heaters		
		> Install New Gas Piping From Existing Gas Meter. Paint Expose Exterior & Interior Gas piping White & Label		
		> Install New Vent Piping Through Roof Vents (6" White Double Wall) and Flash Into Metal Roof. Warranty Against Leaks 10 Years.		
		> Install New Conduit With Control Wiring From Heaters To Wall With New Thermostats. Paint Exposed Conduit White.		
		> 120 Volt, 20 Amp Electrical Circuits To Be Installed By Electrician		
		> Start-Up Heaters, Set Gas Pressure And Verify Proper Operation		
		> Warranty: 5 Year Parts & Labor Space-Ray Heater Model #'s: LTU75-30 75,000 Btu/hr		
1.00		Electrical	2600.00	2600.00
		Add For Double Wall Interior Venting Using 6" Horizontal Vent Pipe Painted White	4000.00	
			QUOTE TOTAL	20000.00

Thank you for the opportunity of making this proposal and we hope to be of service to you. Terms: Full payment of invoice, whether partial or final is due within 15 days of invoice date. Interest at 18% APR is due on all invoices not paid within 15 days of invoice. This quotation is valid for 30 days.

GUPTON SERVICES, INC.:

W. J. Gupton

Authorized Signature

ACCEPTED BY THE OWNERS:

Date

Vance County Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting – Other Matters
March 12, 2015

Support for Concept of Community Gardens. Staff was approached by the City of Henderson and in turn spoke with the properties committee March 10, 2015 regarding a proposal from Green Rural Development Organization to create community gardens utilizing vacant REO property owned by the City and County. The City has gone on record supporting the concept and has asked the County to do likewise. The enclosed business plan outlines the proposal which requests participation by the City and County by donating up to 10 properties, which would serve as an in-kind donation used to leverage USDA Rural Development funds for the development of the community gardens. As proposed, the gardens would serve as a revitalization tool while providing fresh vegetables and entrepreneurship training targeted for those most in need. Green Rural Development intends to submit a grant application to the USDA by March 31st and has requested support allowing them to show in-kind donations from the City and County. No direct financial contribution is requested. *Committee Recommendation: Authorize the chairman to execute the enclosed letter supporting the concept of community gardens while not financially obligating the County for any specific fund appropriations.*

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County Manager's Office
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Kelly H. Grissom
Clerk to Board
Telephone (252) 738-2001

March 12, 2015

Mr. Henry B. Crews, Executive Director
Green Rural Development Organization
424 Hamilton Street
Henderson, NC 27536

Re: County Endorsement of Community Garden Concept

Dear Mr. Crews:

During the Board of Commissioners' special meeting on March 12, 2015, the Board reviewed your business plan and exciting proposal to bring community market gardens to the City of Henderson and Vance County. It is apparent that numerous properties sit vacant throughout the City and County and by strategically locating these gardens, a source of fresh vegetables will be provided while opportunities for entrepreneurship will be created for low income citizens and those in need.

Upon reviewing the plan, it appears that your organization is interested in developing approximately 10 vacant properties that are jointly owned by the City and County. While we realize that there are numerous legal details and items to be completed prior to commencing the program, the Board supports this concept. While the County cannot provide direct monetary support, we can consider an in-kind donation of land in cooperation with the City of Henderson.

The County commends you for your forethought and creative visioning to improve Henderson and Vance County.

Sincerely,

Mr. Archie B. Taylor, Jr., Chairman
Vance County Board of Commissioners



Office of the Mayor

134 Rose Avenue, P. O. Box 1434, Henderson, NC 27536

Phone 252.430.5708 : Fax 252.492.7935 : E-mail pogeary@ci.henderson.nc.us

www.ci.henderson.nc.us

March 10, 2015

Mr. Archie B. Taylor, Jr. Chairman
Vance County Commissioners
122 Young Street, Suite B
Henderson, NC 27536

Dear Commissioner Taylor:

During the City Council meeting last evening, a presentation was made regarding a very exciting program that Council agreed, in concept to support. It is our hope that the County will also endorse this program.

The business plan for Green Rural Redevelopment Organization (GRRO) is enclosed. The plan outlines the program and its responsibilities for establishing small community market gardens strategically placed throughout the County and City. The desired result is to provide fresh vegetables to neighborhoods by using 10-15 vacant lots currently owned jointly by the County and City.

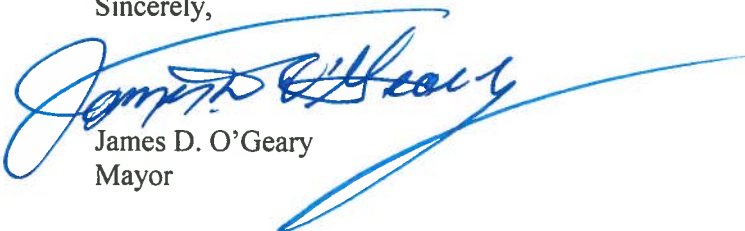
By consensus, the Council agreed this is a worthy program that will provide many intangible advantages to the entire community. Council believes some of the intangibles to be strengthening neighborhoods, encouraging participation in raising their own food along with providing business education. This will also put to use lots that currently sit idle.

We realize this is coming to your attention at the last minute and there are many details to be worked out. However, this is a result of funding deadlines for GRRO with the USDA Rural Development, along with a grant application which is due by March 31, 2015.

At this time, the specific request is to ask for the County's support, and for the Commissioner's to consider convey 10-15 lots to GRRO. Please understand if the property is not used for the same, GRRO has agreed the property will revert back to the County and City.

We certainly hope you will embrace this concept with the City as we see it as an exciting program that will affect many of the neighborhoods throughout the County and City.

Sincerely,



James D. O'Geary
Mayor

Enclosure

GAP Market Garden Business Plan



Green Rural Redevelopment

Henderson, NC 27536

252-430-0116

Executive Summary

Green Rural Redevelopment Organization (GRRO) is a micro-enterprise initiative designed to support the development of self-employment through farming opportunities in America's rural communities. This will give opportunities to low-income adults, dislocated workers and veterans. Micro-enterprises contribute significantly to economic growth and social stability. This sector is an important vehicle through which low-income individuals can escape poverty, and help others in our community become self-sufficient by producing jobs.

Our Plan is to:

1. Establish three demonstration farms

- Demonstration Small Farm (7 acres and up)
- Demonstration Urban Farm (1 – 7 acres)
- Demonstration Community Market Garden Farm - (less than an acre)

It is our belief that by identifying motivated individual farmers in the target population, (low-income adults, dislocated workers, and veterans) we will be aiding them in developing self-employment options. This will be the cornerstone for the continuation and expansion of other anti-poverty program concepts. Allowing low-income individuals and veterans to create their own employment opportunities through farming will thereby create jobs for others in the process.

2. Establish Ten Community Market Gardens

- Aid in acquiring GAP Certification (Good Agricultural Practices) for the ten Community Market Gardens
- Aide in developing twenty (20) farm related jobs.
- Aide in 10 Farmers Only Grocery Stands (FOGS)

We are seeking funding from various entities in the amount of \$135,000

Source of Funding

NC Rural Development	\$50,000
Natural Resources and Conservation Service	\$31,500
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association	\$ 3,600
Henderson/Vance County	<u>\$50,000</u>
	\$135,100

Business Structure

Green Rural Redevelopment Organization (GRRO)
is a 501C3 non-profit entity in North Carolina



(4)

Marketing Plan

Transition to organic farming will allow us to tap into a market that is now in high demand. We will offer top quality field packaged produce which will be ready for market. We have already identified three companies that will purchase our produce. They are as follows:

Eastern Carolina Organics of Durham, North Carolina. As stated by the CEO, “We market and distribute wholesale Carolina organic farm produce to retailers, restaurants and buying clubs. We think that a sustainable food system is based on providing fresh local fruit, vegetables, and herbs while protecting the environment.”

Bull City Cool, of Durham, North Carolina is a local food hub that is dedicated to getting local farm fresh vegetables to consumers and also provide cool and cold storage to Durham Businesses

Food Share of Durham North Carolina is a farm food hub that provides fresh local foods to food insecure community members, while building healthy community food systems.

We will also introduce our, demonstration projects and organic concepts through our website:

www.greenruralredevelopment.com.

Method of Growing Produce

Organically grown produce is ever increasing in its value and demand.

Our plan is to acquire greenhouses in order to lengthen our growing season. A quite obvious reason for owning a greenhouse is its protection from the elements. Unless you live in a year-round warm climate, your growing season is limited. It also provides optimal growing conditions and convenience to us as farmers. All of our produce will be grown in greenhouses.



(6)

Why Grow Organically?

- **Requires Organic Certification**

Organic certification is the public's assurance that products have been grown and handled according to strict procedures that protect you and the environment.

- **Reduce Your Health Risks.**

Many EPA-approved pesticides were registered long before extensive research linked these chemicals to cancer and other diseases. Organic agriculture is one way to prevent any more of these chemicals from getting into the air, earth, water, and our bodies.

- **Improve Soil Health**

Soil health is essential for the survival of our species. Conventional farming practices are rapidly depleting topsoil fertility. Creating and sustaining healthy soils is the major objective for organic growers.

- **Protect the Environment.**

Soil erosion; pesticide contamination of soils, air, and water; nitrate loading of waterways and wells; and elimination of planetary biodiversity are some of the problems associated with today's conventional farming methods. Organic farmers use practices that protect soil, air, and water resources; and that promote biodiversity.

- **Protect Farm Families and Workers.**

Organic farming prohibits the use of toxic materials, making the farm a safer place to live and work.

Products



Green Beans

Turnip Greens

Heirloom tomatoes

Spaghetti Squash

Zucchini

Carrots

Leaf Lettuce

Cucumbers

Baby Collards

Green Bell Peppers

Mustard Greens

Eggplants

Radish

Cilantro

Squash

Green Kale

Honey

Fresh Organic Eggs

Red Wiggler Worms





Operations/Management

Executive Director

Henry Crews is a business owner with more thirty years of experience in marketing and sales to food vendors. He is a member of JW Holdings, the only minority prime-vendor (a full line food service company) for the Department of Justice, Department of Defense, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Indiana State National Guard, Indiana Bureau of Prisons and Florida Bureau of Prisons, from 1994-2004. Mr. Crews is also a member of the Kerr Tar Beekeepers Association and NC State Beekeepers Association.

Chief Financial Officer

Marion Brodie Williams is a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a concentration in Accounting and Management. She has over thirty years of accounting and management experience in Vance, Chair of the Math Dept., Kittrell Job Corp, Office Manager of Certainteed of Oxford, NC. and a Micro Loan Manager. She has also owned and operated a Small Tax and Consultant Business for more than twenty years.

Director of Training

Ardis Crews was employed as the Dean of Student Services at Chicago City Colleges, supervising recruitment, registration, testing and assessment, financial aid, job development, job placement. Interim Dean of vocational programs which includes Dawson Technical Institute and Washburn Trade School.

Director of Farm Management

Rosetta Thorpe has over thirty years of farming experience. Her experiences include working for seven years at the Botanical Gardens of Chapel Hill. While working for Learning Service, Inc. she used raised beds and in-ground organic farming as a rehabilitation tool for Arbor House, Forest House, Magnolia House and for the main campus. While there she also used horticulture as a means of therapy for their clients.

Test Kitchen Manager

Carol Robinson has expertise in preparing meals for the elderly and men's shelter, using fresh vegetables from the community garden. She has taught many cooking techniques to youth in the area. She is head of the kitchen committee of her home based church. Robinson has submitted and won many entries in Community and Statewide cooking events.

Classes/Seminars/Training

Our management team has attended the following:

Vance Granville Community College - REAL Agricultural Entrepreneurship Class

North Carolina State University – Pollination Workshop

Growing Produce for Greenhouses

Carolina Farm Steward Association – Prep Class for Gap Certification

License to raise and sale Tilapia in North Carolina

We are currently working with four educational institutions

Vance Granville Community College – Technical Assistance, Training and certifications and Conference Site

North Carolina A & T – drip irrigation, vermicomposting

North Carolina State University – Technical Assistance – soil sampling – rain harvesting

Virginia State University -Technical Expertise in the area of setting up our aquaponics system and stocking the already existing concrete pond with adult catfish and tilapia growing and requirements for a processing license

Partnerships

North Carolina A & T

NC Rural Development

Virginia State University

Carolina Common Enterprise

Farm Service Administration

USDA Strike Force Initiative

North Carolina State University

Carolina Farm Steward Association

Vance Granville Community College

Natural Resources and Conservation Dept.

N C Cooperative Extension Agency/Vance Grows

Our Green Partners

Teamwork and partnering are strategic operating principals, which underpin the delivery of all GERC services.

Companies that are key to GERC's success:

- USDA RSD HIA
- NC Rural Economic Development Center
- Vance Co. Cooperative Extension
- Vance County 4-H
- Dairy Garden Club
- Collin Memorial Presbyterian Church
- USDA/Vance Co. State Force
- North NC
- Vance County JCS
- Vance Co. Health Department
- Vance Co. Appearance Commission
- Vance Co. Parent Commission
- Vance County Master Gardener
- Stylacrest Building Products
- RMC Vinyl Siding
- Direx Interior Shutters
- Interior Siding Panels
- Ondura Roofing
- Sun Windows & Doors
- LOWE'S Builders Discount Warehouse
- Home Depot FNA® Building & Lumber
- Graystone Concrete Company
- Independent Builders Supply Ast
- Southern Builders & Manufacturing Ast
- The Yarns Foundation

VANCE GROWS
Strengthening
our community
one garden
at a time

NC Share Solar Center
Degree of Green Inc.
Center for Rural Affairs
Eastern Carolina Organic (ECO)
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Pollinator Partnership

School of Communication Arts
Virginia State University
A&I State University
North Carolina State University

Graphical Acumen - Site Designer

Preliminary Budget Estimate

Rural Development	\$	50,000.00
N R C S	\$	31,500.00
CFSA	\$	3,600.00
Vance County		\$50,000.00

Farm Equipment

Quantity

GREENHOUSES	3	\$	30,000.00
Drip Irrigation Kits	3	\$	1,800.00
Fans	3	\$	1,200.00
Certifications	3	\$	1,800.00
Insurance	3	\$	500.00
Tractor	1	\$	10,500.00
Tractor Attachments	1	\$	13,870.00
1 Cold Storage Mobile Unit	1	\$	17,000.00
12x12 Storage house	1	\$	3,000.00
Farm tools	1	\$	600.00
Farm Operating Expenses	1	\$	15,230.00
Garden Site Coordinator	1	\$	9,600.00
Operating Expenses			

Utilities

Rent

Office Equipment

Legal/ Professional

Ins

Taxes

Travel

Advertisement

Meals

Office Supplies

Office Totals

\$30,000.00

\$ 135,100.00

\$135,100.00