

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Monday, February 17, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those Commissioners present were as follows: Chairman Gordon Wilder, Vice-Chairman Dan Brummitt, Commissioners Carolyn Faines, Yolanda J. Feimster, Thomas S. Hester, Jr., and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: Commissioner Leo Kelly, Jr.

Also present were County Manager Jordan McMillen, Finance Director Katherine Bigelow, County Attorney Jonathan S. Care, and Clerk to the Board Kelly H. Grissom.

County Manager Jordan McMillen stated that the purpose of the special meeting was to award a construction contract for Phase III of the industrial park, approve a memorandum of negotiation, review a DSS salary adjustment request, and review an overtime request from the Sheriff's Office.

*Henderson-Vance Industrial Park Phase III Construction Project.* The County's engineer, Tim Carpenter with LKC Engineering, was present and provided an overview of the bidding process and value engineering exercise which has been completed in order to bring the project within the existing grant budget. A total of six bidders submitted bids with the low bidder (ELJ, Inc.) providing a bid that was approximately \$700,000 over budget. He stated that he has finalized a value engineering exercise to reduce the project scope and associated costs within budget. The main impact is that the new roadway will not be paved throughout the entire project area. It will be built to DOT standards, and can be paved at a later date if the board wishes to do so. The project is funded with NC Rural Ready Grant funds and the NC Department of Commerce has agreed to the reduced project scope. Mr. Carpenter stated that construction is anticipated to be completed within seven to eight months.

In order to proceed, the board will need to approve a memorandum of negotiation between the county and the contractor outlining the negotiated and reduced project scope and will also need to award the contract to the low bidder. Staff has also provided a budget transfer for review that allocates grant funds into the appropriate line items in the county's budget. The recommendation is to approve the memorandum of negotiation and award the Henderson-Vance Industrial Park

Phase III construction contract to ELJ, Inc. totaling \$2,149,457, subject to final attorney review of contract documents.

County Attorney Jonathan S. Care asked Mr. Carpenter to obtain a written statement from NC DOT stating that they will maintain the paved portion of the road.

After discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr., vote unanimous, to approve the memorandum of negotiation and award the Henderson-Vance Industrial Park Phase III construction contract to ELJ, Inc. totaling \$2,149,457, subject to final attorney review of contract documents.



**Budget Transfer #8  
FY 2019-2020  
Economic Development**

<b>Transfer From:</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Contracted Services		32,850.00
Legal/Fiscal Cost		5,070.00
Contingency		107,832.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 145,752.00</b>

<b>Transfer To:</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Construction		145,752.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 145,752.00</b>

Purpose: Transfer from original budget request to represent a more accurate budget as time has progressed.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners  
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*DSS Salary Adjustment Request.* County Manager Jordan McMillen stated that DSS Director Denita Devega has requested a salary adjustment for a key employee at DSS. The position is a Staff Development Specialist I. The salary of the person currently in this position is \$39,096. This person was offered a job with NC DHHS for \$49,000. Ms. Devega is asking the board to consider matching the offer provided by NC DHHS in order to avoid losing an employee that goes above and beyond her job duties and has demonstrated her ability to move the department forward. She is also a supervisor of three other positions and serves on the executive leadership team. The employee has agreed to stay at Vance County DSS if the county would match the offer from NC

DHHS. The salary would be \$49,008 in order to be divisible by 12. This would put the employee over the mid-point of this position’s salary range.

Commissioner Carolyn Faines expressed her concerns with this matter and stated that the board should not give a \$10,000 raise to one employee when all employees need raises. She stated that there should be someone else in the department that could fill this position. Ms. Devega stated that other employees were given the opportunity to step into this position, but no one was interested. It was noted that it would cost more to hire a new employee and provide all the training needed, than it would be to raise the current employee’s salary.

Commissioner Dan Brummitt expressed his concerns with setting a precedent and stated that the board needs to be very conscious of that. Commissioner Gordon Wilder asked Ms. Devega if this employee will stay with the county long-term. Ms. Devega stated that there is no way for her to know that. Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr. stated that the board should support the request of the DSS Director to keep critical employees.

Motion was made by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr. to approve the salary adjustment request for the position of Staff Development Specialist I to \$49,008. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and vote was ayes – five (5); noes – one (1), with the dissenting vote being cast by Commissioner Carolyn Faines.

*Sheriff’s Office Overtime Request.* Mr. McMillen stated that the Sheriff’s Office has requested overtime for 15 deputies to work an event this weekend involving the 2nd Amendment.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dan Brummitt to approve Budget Amendment #20 as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Commissioner Yolanda Feimster suggested that if attendance is lower than expected at the event, the Sheriff should cut back on the number of deputies working the event.

After brief discussion, vote on the motion to approve Budget Amendment #20 was unanimous.



**Budget Amendment #20  
FY 2019-2020  
Sheriff’s Office**

<b>Revenue Amendment Request</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Revenue Increase (Decrease)</b>
Fund Balance Appropriated	10-399-439900	4,700
<b>Total Revenue Increase (Decrease)</b>		<b>\$ 4,700</b>

<b>Expenditure Amendment Request</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Expense Increase (Decrease)</b>
Sheriff's Office OT	10-510-500003	4,700
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 4,700</b>

Purpose: Special event security at Cross Creek Outdoor Supply.

Authorization: Vance County Board of Commissioners  
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As there was no further business, at 5:00 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr., vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

Approved and signed March 9, 2020.

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Chairman