

**MINUTES**  
**VANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**September 18, 2023**

The Vance County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Monday, September 18, 2023 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: Chair Yolanda J. Feimster, Vice-Chair R. Dan Brummitt, Commissioners Sean A. Alston, Sr., Carolyn Faines, Leo Kelly, Jr., and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr.

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

*Opioid Settlement Funds - Annual Meeting.* The NC Memorandum of Agreement requires that each county receiving opioid settlement funds hold at least one annual meeting open to the public and invite all the incorporated municipalities in the county to attend. The meeting was advertised and Vance County municipalities were invited to attend. Interim County Manager Scott Elliott noted that, to date, Vance County has received \$447,738 and will receive \$6.2M by the end of 2039.

Elizabeth Brewington and Jill Rushing with the NCACC Opioid Settlement Technical Assistance Team provided information to the board on settlement strategies, resources and collaborations. The goal of the assistance team is to assist and support counties in planning for and utilizing opioid settlement funds, manage strategic health initiatives, and maximize resources and impact through technical assistance, outreach, education and training, and collaboration. It was noted that settlement funds may be used by the following strategies:

- Collaborative Strategic Planning
- Evidence-based OUD Treatment
- Recovery Support, Housing, Employment and Prevention
- Early Intervention
- Naloxone Distribution
- Post Overdose Response Teams
- Syringe Services Programs
- Criminal Legal System Diversion Programs
- MOUD in NC Jail Settings
- ADA/MOUD in Jails
- Reentry Programs

Other services provided by the NCACC Opioid Settlement Technical Assistance Team include strategic action planning, collaboration and connections, and program implementation support.

*Creation of Opioid Task Force – Use of Funds.* Chair Yolanda Feimster noted the need for a task force to recommend ways to use the settlement funds in Vance County. The board heard from Public Health Director Lisa Harrison and Henderson City Manager Terrell Blackmon, who both expressed their willingness to be a part of that task force. Commissioner Dan Brummitt noted that a representative from Vaya Health should also be a part of that task force. Chair Feimster suggested that the Task Force be made up of three commissioners, but receive input from the outside agencies as well as families that have been affected by the opioid epidemic.

Motion was made by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr. to create an Opioid Ad-hoc Committee comprised of three commissioners. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr. *Following the work session, Chair Feimster appointed Commissioners Alston, Faines and Feimster to the task force.*

*Creation of Joint Violent Crime Task Force.* The board agreed that the public safety committee would take on this issue. The work of this committee would at some point be coordinated with the city's public safety committee.

*Other Business.* The board entered into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

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