

MINUTES
VANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
November 20, 2023

The Vance County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Monday, November 20, 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 Leo Kelly, Jr. and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: Commissioners Sean A. Alston, Sr., Carolyn Faines, and Thomas S. Hester, Jr.

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

State Budget Update and Check Presentation. Representative Frank Sossamon, Senator Lisa Barnes, and Representative Matthew Winslow appeared before the board and provided an update on state funding. The stated budget was approved and appropriates \$30 billion to fund new projects across the state, including investments in water and sewer improvements, transportation, school safety, teacher and state employee raises, and economic development. Locally, Vance County's representatives secured several items for Vance and Granville Counties including \$4M for Vance County water, \$691,536 for Vance County Sheriff's Office body cameras, and \$150,000 for Vance County Economic Development.

Representative Frank Sossamon, Senator Lisa Barnes, and Representative Matthew Winslow then presented a check in the amount of \$4M for the county's water system. The board thanked them for securing this funding and for all they do for Vance County.

Land Donation Update. County Manager Renee Perry noted that Mr. Arthur Dale Faulkner informed the county in September that he would like to leave 32 acres and his farmhouse to the county upon his passing. The only stipulation is that the house be used as a museum and the land be used for something related to animals. The properties committee met on this matter in October and advised staff to consult with Cooperative Extension Director Wykia Macon. Ms. Perry provided information to the board from Ms. Macon with options/suggestions on how the land could be used. Ms. Perry stated that Mr. Faulkner would like to know if the county would be willing to accept the property and stipulations.

Commissioner Dan Brummitt stated that he would like the properties committee to review Ms. Macon's options/suggestions before committing to Mr. Faulkner. This matter was referred to the properties committee for further review.

Water Violation Report. Special Projects Coordinator Frankie Nobles informed the board that on November 2, the county received notification from the NC Department of Environmental Quality of an exceedance of lead in Phase 1 drinking water at two locations – 3175 Warrenton Road and 4955 Vicksboro Road. This does not compromise the water system. The county's operations and maintenance contractor, Envirolink, is obligated to notify the public in three ways,

one of which is a public meeting. They will also make a public service announcement and display the notice in public areas. Notifications will be included with the water bills of those affected as well. Envirolink will also monitor for lead and copper at each entry point.

Jail Inmate Co-pay. Ms. Perry introduced the concept of a jail inmate co-pay plan. The plan would induce inmates to take more responsibility for their health care while diminishing the misuse of the correctional health care system. This, in turn, would allow health professionals more time to direct medical resources to those with true needs. Finance Director Katherine Bigelow advised that she contacted over 25 counties and they all use a co-pay plan. This matter was referred to the public safety committee for further review.

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