

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the commissioners' conference room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those commissioners present were as follows: Chair R. Dan Brummitt, Vice-Chair Leo Kelly, Jr., Commissioners Sean A. Alston, Sr., Carolyn Faines, Yolanda J. Feimster, Thomas S. Hester, Jr., and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: None

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

Rev. Joseph Ratliff, Shiloh Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

Public comments were heard first. Mr. Brandon Link introduced himself as the new president of the Vance County Fire Association. He informed the board that Mr. Powell Wilkins is the new vice president and Mike Fisher will continue to be the treasurer. Rob Montague will continue to serve as secretary. He asked the board to contact him or Mr. Wilkins if they need anything.

County Manager C. Renee Perry introduced Mr. William Coker as the county's new Animal Services Manager. Mr. Coker thanked the board for this opportunity and stated that he is looking forward to working in this capacity.

Cooperative Extension Director Wykia Macon introduced Micah Sharpe as the county's new 4-H Agent. Mr. Sharpe stated that he is happy to be in this position and is looking forward to working with the county's youth.

Ms. Debbie Scott, Vance County Employee Engagement Team Member, was next on the agenda to recognize the new employee of the month. Employees are nominated by their peers, and this month's recognition goes to Deputy Taylor Inscoe with the Vance County Sheriff's Office. Her peers noted that she is a team player, has great initiative, and goes above and beyond her normal duties. Ms. Inscoe will receive a \$100 gift card and a designated parking space for the month. She was presented a certificate of appreciation and the board congratulated her on receiving this recognition.

As advertised, a public hearing was held to gain citizen input on the FY 2024-2025 Budget. As there was no one present who wished to speak on this matter, Chair R. Dan Brummitt declared the public hearing closed.

As advertised, a public hearing was held to receive public input on a proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment. Interim Planning Director Michael Harvey stated that the proposed amendments are related to the Light Industrial (LI) and Office Institutional (OI) general use zoning districts. Proposed amendments would include the Table of Permitted Land Uses: Industrial Uses category; Section 6: Special Uses; and Section 12: Definitions. Amendments would modify allowable land uses within the Light Industrial and Office Institutional zoning districts and make Vance County more competitive with respect to economic development recruitment activities and expanding the local industrial tax base. He stated that amendments include adding asphalt and concrete processing plants as Special Uses (i.e., approved only through the issuance of a Special Use Permit by the Board of Adjustment), allowing for the development of research and development facilities and data centers as permitted uses, and the listing of several land uses to indicate they are prohibited from development in Vance County including Petroleum Refineries. Mr. Harvey noted that during its November 9, 2023 meeting, the Vance County Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the proposed text amendments.

As there was no one from the public who wished to speak on this matter, Chair R. Dan Brummitt declared the public hearing closed.

It was noted that the amendments will be made and brought back to the board for final approval during its February 5th regular meeting.

Water District Board

Chair R. Dan Brummitt called the Water District Board to order.

ARP Funding Resolution. County Manager C. Renee Perry stated that the NC Department of Environmental Quality has offered American Rescue Plan funding in the amount of \$250,000 to perform an asset inventory and assessment study of the county’s water system. She recommended approval of the resolution to accept the \$250,000 grant and allow the County Manager to furnish any needed information and execute any needed documentation.

Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, seconded by Commissioner Leo Kelly, Jr., vote unanimous, to adopt the following resolution approving the Water Shortage Response Plan for the Vance County Water District.



RESOLUTION
by the
Vance County Water District Board
Accepting American Rescue Plan Funding

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funded from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund was established in S.L. 2021-180 to assist eligible units of government with meeting their water/wastewater infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has offered American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding in the amount of \$250,000 (Project No. AIA-D-ARP-0214) to perform an Asset Inventory and Assessment study detailed in the submitted application; and

WHEREAS, the Vance County Water District intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE VANCE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT:

That the Vance County Water District does hereby accept the American Rescue Plan (ARP) offer of \$250,000 grant (Project No. AIA-D-ARP-0214).

That the Vance County Water District does hereby give assurance to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Award Offer will be adhered to.

That County Manager C. Renee Perry, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the Division of Water Infrastructure.

Adopted this the 8th day of January, 2024.

**R. Dan Brummitt (signed)
R. Dan Brummitt, Chair**

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The November 2023 monthly operations report was presented to the board for information.

Chair R. Dan Brummitt adjourned the Water District Board.

Committee Reports and Recommendations

Properties Committee – Land Donation. County Manager C. Renee Perry stated that the committee (Taylor, Brummitt, and Alston) met on December 20, 2023 to review a request from Mr. Arthur Dale Faulkner for Vance County to accept 32.63 acres of land and a farmhouse upon his death. Cooperative Extension Director Wykia Macon presented her proposed use of the land and farmhouse to the committee. Ms. Perry noted that the committee has asked staff to continue to do research to determine if there are any funds that can be solicited for the maintenance of the land, as well as research how other counties/municipalities handle donations of this magnitude.

Properties Committee – LED Billboards. Ms. Perry stated that the committee reviewed a request from Jonathon Edwards to amend the Vance County Zoning Ordinance to allow for electronic billboards within Vance County’s planning jurisdiction. She noted that the committee agreed that they do not want to proceed with any amendments at this time.

Public Safety Committee – Vehicle Use Policy. Ms. Perry noted that the committee (Faines, Brummitt, and Alston) met on December 20, 2023 to review the vehicle use policy and discuss possible changes. The county manager recommended to the committee that the policy remain as is and allow the county manager to enforce the policy internally and deal with any performance issues that may arise. The committee agreed to allow the policy to remain as is.

Public Safety Committee – Inmate Co-pay Policy. Ms. Perry stated that the committee reviewed a proposed policy and discussed the pros and cons to implementing such a policy. The committee agreed to implement the inmate co-pay policy to charge inmates with taking more responsibility for their health care. This will reduce the misuse of the correctional health care system.

Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines to implement an inmate co-pay policy with staff's recommended effective date. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr. and unanimously approved.

Public Safety Committee – Fire PPE Capital Request. Ms. Perry noted that the committee reviewed the request from Fire Chief Chris Wright to move forward with the purchase of PPE for fire staff. Recommendation: allow the county manager to authorize the capital purchase of seven sets of turnout gear for the Vance County Fire Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr., vote unanimous, to approve the purchase of seven sets of turnout gear for the Vance County Fire Department.

Public Safety Committee – Fire Prevention Code Enforcement Ordinance. Ms. Perry noted that AP Triton, the consultant conducting the fire study, has recommended that the county develop a Fire Prevention Code Enforcement Ordinance. The committee received a proposed ordinance from Fire Chief Chris Wright. She stated that the proposed ordinance has been reviewed and approved by AP Triton. The committee's recommendation is to review the ordinance for future adoption.

County Attorney's Report

County Attorney Jonathan S. Care stated that he was asked by a commissioner to prepare a resolution that would allow the county manager to hire department heads without prior board approval. It was noted that a similar resolution was approved by the board on November 6, 2023, but it required prior board approval for the hiring of department heads and other key positions.

Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr., vote unanimous, to approve the following resolution authorizing the county manager to appoint county officers, employees and agents without prior board approval.



RESOLUTION
by the Vance County Board of Commissioners
Authorizing the County Manager to Appoint County Officers, Employees, and Agents
Pursuant to NCGS § 153A-82

WHEREAS, Pursuant to NCGS § § 153A-82, Vance County Board of Commissioners has the ability to authorize the County Manager to appoint positions within the County; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners desire to authorize the County Manager direct authority to appoint without prior Board approval Officers, Employees and Agents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Vance as follows:

1. The Vance County Manager shall be authorized to appoint officers, employees, and agents without first securing the board's approval. The manager shall make these appointments, suspensions, and removals in accordance with any general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances that the board may adopt.

This resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 8th day of January, 2024.

R. Dan Brummitt (signed)
R. Dan Brummitt, Chair
Vance County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Kelly H. Grissom (signed)
Kelly H. Grissom
Clerk to the Board



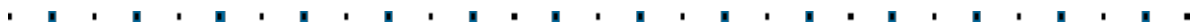
Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr., vote unanimous, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: November 2023 Tax Refunds and Releases, departmental monthly reports, and the minutes of the December 4, 2023 regular meeting and the December 20, 2023 special meeting.



TAX OFFICE REFUND AND RELEASE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2023

TAXPAYER NAME	TAX YR	REAL	PERSONAL	SOLID WASTE FEE	REASON
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2018	0	0	112	REMOVE SOLID WAS
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2019	0	0	112	REMOVE SOLID WAS
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2020	0	0	117	REMOVE SOLID WAS
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2021	0	0	120	REMOVE SOLID WAS
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2022	0	0	120	REMOVE SOLID WAS
KALB PAUL	2022	440.55	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
DUNCAN WILLIAM J	2023	0	152.73	0	PERS PROP BILLED
DUNCAN WILLIAM J	2023	0	133.93	0	PERS PROP BILLED
PARRISH JOHN D	2023	0	92.40	120	PERS PROP BILLED
ABBOTT JEFFREY WAYNE	2023	0	74.13	0	CORRECT VALUE
AGUILAR JORDI	2023	0	31.23	0	CORRECT VALUE
ALESSI JENNIFER LASSITER	2023	88.96	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
AYSCUE DAVID B	2023	0	140.22	0	CORRECT VALUE
AYSCUE LISA D	2023	0	0	120	REMOVE SOLID WAS
AYSCUE LISA D	2023	0	0	840	REMOVE SOLID WAS
AYSCUE LISA D	2023	0	42.87	120	PERS PROP BILLED
BULLOCK PLUMMER	2023	244.75	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
CAMPBELL AFIBA	2023	440.55	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
CANADY HORACE JR	2023	651.49	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
CROWDER DEXTER MCDANIEL	2023	0	154.49	0	PERS PROP BILLED
DUNCAN WILLIAM J	2023	0	116.63	0	PERS PROP BILLED
GILL BESSIE W HEIRS	2023	486.63	0	0	PUV APPEAL GRANT
GOODING WOODROW JR DECEASED	2023	410.00	0	120	CORRECT/GRANT EX
GRISSOM T WAYNE	2023	0	0	120	REMOVE SOLID WAS
HARRIS JERRY WAYNE	2023	0	11.65	0	PERS PROP BILLED
HIGHT DAVID B L	2023	162.20	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
HILLIARD EDGAR DECEASED	2023	622.33	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
JEFFERSON VINCENT E	2023	440.55	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
JOHNSON SARAH A	2023	117.64	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
JOYNER RODNEY	2023	440.55	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
KALB PAUL	2023	440.55	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
MIDDLEBURG BAPTIST CHURCH	2023	1037.52	0	120	CORRECT/GRANT EX
OBREGON MONIQUE JOLIVETTE	2023	0	18.49	120	PERS PROP BILLED
PARRISH JOHN D	2023	0	87.77	120	PERS PROP BILLED
PHAN TUAN VANN	2023	987.72	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
SHORT WILTON LEE	2023	24.67	0	0	CORRECT VALUE
SHORT WILTON LEE	2023	56.32	0	0	CORRECT VALUE
SHORT WILTON LEE III	2023	814.03	0	0	CORRECT VALUE
SHORT WILTON LEE III	2023	339.71	0	0	CORRECT VALUE
SMALL JAMES S	2023	483.57	0	120	REMOVE SOLID WAS
TURNER RANDOLPH H	2023	801.95	0	0	CORRECT VALUE
WILLIAMS PATTI LU	2023	338.99	0	0	CORRECT/GRANT EX
TOTAL		9871.23	1056.54		
GRAND TOTAL	10927.77				



MONTHLY REPORTS: 911 Emergency Operations, Administrative Ambulance Charge-Offs, Cooperative Extension, EMS, Human Resources, Information Technology, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Development, Tax Collections and Veterans Service.

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Miscellaneous

Appointments. The following appointment was presented to the board for consideration:

Vance County Industrial Facility and Pollution Control Financing Authority – 6 year term
Reappoint Robert Herford

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. to reappoint Robert Herford to the Vance County Industrial Facility and Pollution Control Financing Authority for a six year term. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr. and unanimously approved.

Appointment of Voting Delegate for 2024 Legislative Goals Conference. Motion was made by Commissioner Leo Kelly, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., vote unanimous, to appoint Sean A. Alston, Sr. as voting delegate for the 2024 NACo Legislative Goals Conference in February.

At this time, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

Upon return to open session, motion was made by Commissioner Sean A. Alston, Sr. to increase the Administration/Finance Office salaries budget by \$50,000; to authorize the county manager to increase the salary of an employee in excess of the 10% limit for the Finance Director, with the balance of the approved budget increase to be added to the county manager’s annual salary, all effective the beginning of the current pay period. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. and unanimously approved.

As there was no further business, motion was made by Commissioner Archie B. Taylor, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

Approved and signed February 5, 2024.



R. Dan Brummitt, Chair