

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA
November 7, 2022

The Members of the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Granville County, North Carolina met in a regular meeting on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, Granville Expo and Convention Center, 4185 US Highway 15 South, Oxford.

Present were:

<i>Chair:</i>	Tony W. Cozart	
<i>Commissioners:</i>	Jimmy Gooch Sue Hinman Zelodis Jay	Timothy Karan Russ May David T. Smith
<i>County Manager:</i>	Drew Cummings	
<i>Assistant County Manager:</i>	Korena Weichel	
<i>County Attorney:</i>	James C. Wrenn, Jr.	
<i>Oxford Public Ledger:</i>	Keith Shearon	

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Tony W. Cozart called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He recognized Commissioner Timothy Karan for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS

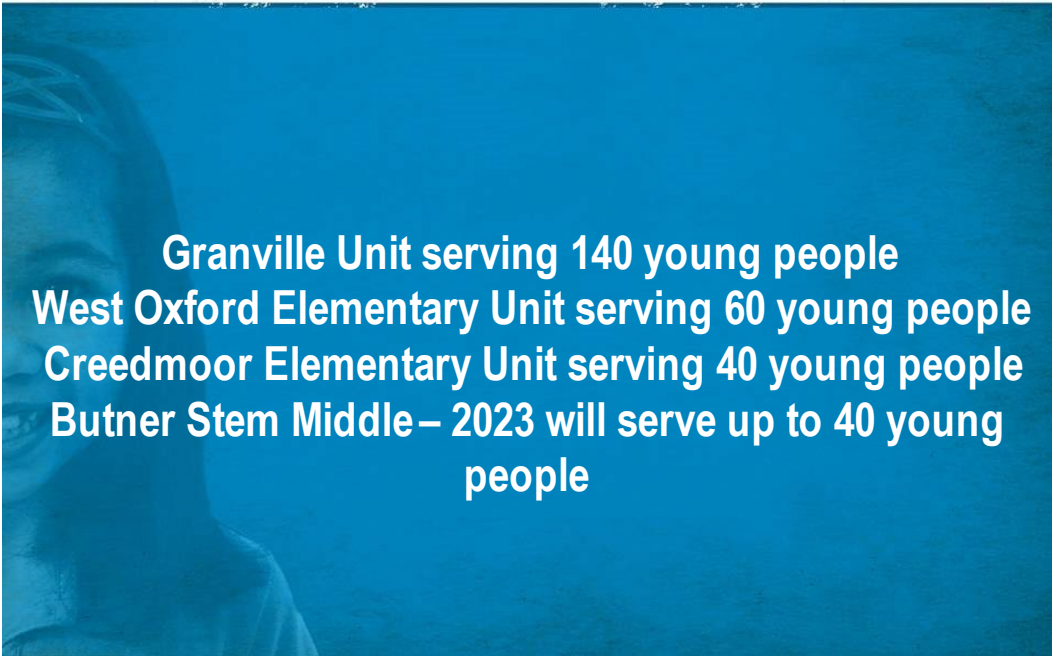
Chairman Cozart stated that Donyell “DJ” Jones, Chief Executive Officer, would give a presentation on the Granville County Unit of the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Mr. Jones provided the following PowerPoint presentation with his notes at the bottom of each slide.

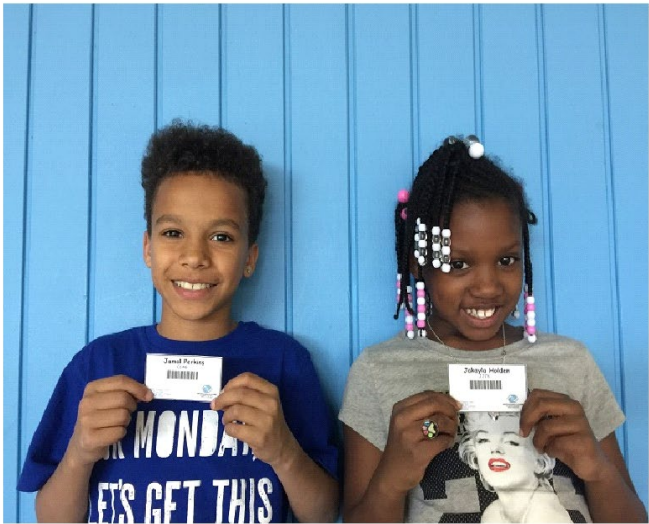


Thank you for this opportunity to share a little about Boys & Girls Clubs and where we are in regards to serving young people in Granville County. I also want to thank you for your continuous support of our organization. Without your investment, we would not be able to provide the services that are so needed in our county.

Locations



Currently, our organization has 3 sites in Granville County: our stand-alone Granville Unit located on West Street here in Oxford, as well as our 2 school based sites located at West Oxford Elementary and Creedmoor Elementary. Those sites were established in partnership with Granville County Scotts and are 100% funded by the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant. We have a goal to reestablish our Club site at Butner Stem Middle School in the beginning of 2023.



Our vision is that each young person that walks through our doors leave our program with the necessary skills and behaviors to be successful in whatever future they so choose. We understand that young need us more today than ever before. As a result of the pandemic, we have seen declines in academic performance, an increase in anxiety, depression, isolation, lack of physical exercise, and with the increased stress

on parents, there has been an impact on young people’s safety and security. None of us know the impact 10 or 20 years from now. What I do know is if you walk through the doors of our Clubs, you will see young people building friendships, doing homework, engaging in recreational activities, participating in social emotional wellness initiatives and sharing their aspirations as well of their fears with Club leaders. We understand that we have a responsibility to fill the gap between school and home, keeping our Club members safe while empowering them to advocate for their futures.

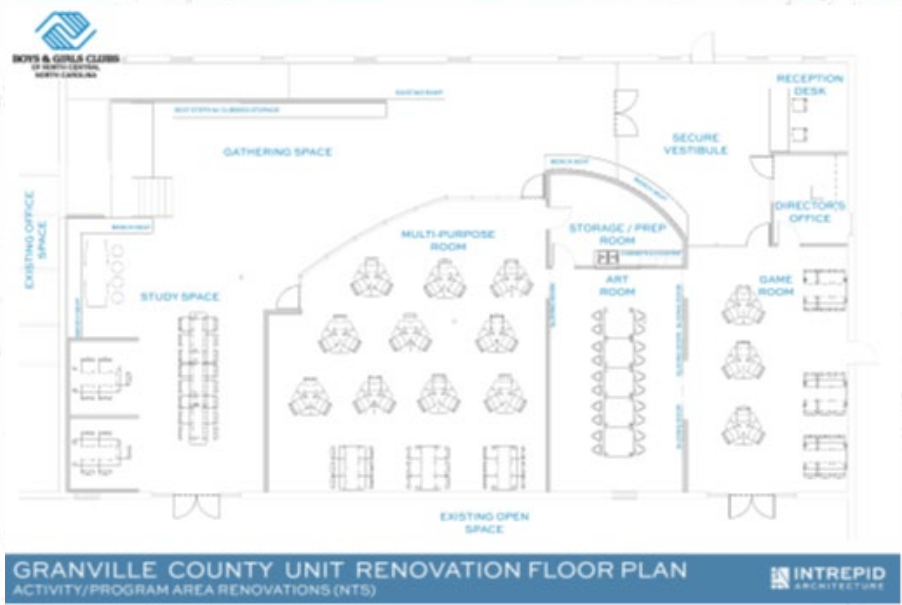
Strategic Initiatives

3 Year Goals

- Provide targeted and intentional programs that meet the needs of kids, parents, and the community
- Increase the exposure of our Clubs while expressing the positive impact and accomplishments of our kids and Teens
- Provide safe, state of the art facilities that allow for an optimal Club Experience for kids and Teens
- Ensure the long term financial sustainability which will provide transformational experiences and opportunities for our kids and Teens

In response to the challenges that our young people face, our Board of Directors, Advisory Councils, and Club leaders have committed to 2 initiatives. Those 2 initiatives include our new 3-year strategic plan and the renovation of our Granville Unit.

Granville Unit Renovation



A few years ago, our Board and team of leaders dreamed of provided our current and future Club members a facility that was attractive, engaging and that would meet all of their needs. Thanks to a transformational investment from Noel and Richard Moore, a generous contribution from Goodwill Industries of Eastern NC, and Strong Arm Baking Company galvanizing their customers, supporters and the community, our dream is now a reality! We are anticipating beginning the first phase of our Granville Unit renovation later this year with a expected completion date of June 2023. This renovation will include

a safer point of entry, a defined learning center and art center, multiple study spaces, technology, and a variety of cool features that promote collaboration, conversation and informal social interaction. Also included that is not pictured is a total update to our Club restrooms. Colorful, bright and awesome aesthetics will create an environment that any young person will be attracted too! We want to make it difficult for parents to pull their child away each day!

PRIORITY OUTCOME:

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



Power Hour: Making Minutes Count provides Club professionals with the strategies, activities, resources and information to create an engaging homework help and tutoring program that encourages Club members of every age to become self-directed learners.

PROJECT LEARN

Project Learn reinforces the academic enrichment and school engagement of young people during the time they spend at the Club.



Summer Brain Gain is comprised of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards. In addition, Summer Brain Gain: Read!, a literacy program, complements the larger Summer Brain Gain curriculum.



diplomas2Degrees (d2D) a college readiness program, provides a range of services to guide Club members as they work toward high school graduation and prepare for postsecondary education and career success.

THE FUNDAMENTALS

A staple of our organization that continues to evolve and develop is our commitment to our 3 priority outcomes. Our goal in regards to our Academic Success priority outcome is that every Club member will graduate on time from high school with a plan for the future. No school system can do it alone. So we're partnering with schools and parents to maximize out-of-school hours to enhance academic performance. We will be expanding our educational support programs to help kids stay on course. And, leveraging partnerships areas such as STEM, expanding learning opportunities, and preventing summer learning loss.

PRIORITY OUTCOME:

CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP



Youth of the Year is Boys & Girls Clubs of America's premier recognition program. It is our signature effort to foster a new generation of leaders, fully prepared to live and lead in a diverse, global and integrated world economy.



Torch Clubs are chartered, small group leadership and service clubs for boys and girls ages 11 to 13. A Torch Club is a powerful vehicle that helps Club staff meet the special character development needs of younger adolescents at a critical stage in their life.



Keystoning is the Movement's ultimate teen program for youth ages 14 to 18. This unique program provides leadership development opportunities for youth to participate in activities, both in and out of the Club, in three focus areas: academic success, career preparation and community service. With the guidance of an adult advisor, Keystone Clubs aim to positively impact teens, their Club and local communities.

Inspire Kids to Lead

THE FUNDAMENTALS

Within our Character and Citizenship priority outcome, we strive to teach kids lasting leadership skills while they learn the value of community service and civic engagement.

We're expanding proven programs that build good character and leadership skills. Through supportive relationships with caring adult mentors and involvement in Club programs, we inspire members to be active in their communities, recognize the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and demonstrate concern for others.

PRIORITY OUTCOME:
HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



TRIPLE PLAY
a game plan for the mind, body and soul
The Coca-Cola Co. Boys & Girls Clubs Anthem

Triple Play is a comprehensive health and wellness program. It strives to improve the overall health of Club members ages 6-18 by increasing daily physical activity, teaching them about good nutrition and helping them develop healthy relationships.

Skills Mastery and Resilience Training



SMART Moves

SMART Moves is a prevention and education program addressing problems such as drug and alcohol use and premature sexual activity.

PASSPORT to MANHOOD
A JOURNEY TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR A POSITIVE ADULTHOOD
Gillette GREAT STARTS Boys & Girls Clubs

Passport to Manhood teaches responsibility to boys ages 11 to 14 with sessions that focus on a specific aspect of character and manhood through highly interactive activities.



SMART Girls provides health, fitness, prevention/education and self-esteem enhancement for girls ages 8 to 17.

Motivate Kids to be Healthy

THE FUNDAMENTALS

Our final priority outcome area revolves around healthy lifestyles. We teach Club members how to make healthy decisions regarding nutrition and exercise. We're expanding our programs that help kids develop healthier lifestyles, which are proven to increase physical activity, knowledge about nutrition and consumption of healthy foods. In addition, our programs focus on social and emotional wellness and making positive decisions when facing challenges.



Each of you play a role in the success of Boys & Girls Clubs and our young people. The support that you have provided continue to manifest and prove that you have invested in good ground. The beneficiaries of your investment are the young people that come through our doors, the families that our young people represent and the community where our young people live.



THANK YOU



ADVOCATE

Be a Catalyst for Change!



DONATE

Open Doors for Our Youth!



GET INVOLVED

Be the Change Youth Need to See!

Mr. Jones thanked the Board for believing in our young people and extend an open invitation to visit one of their locations. When asked about collaboration with the schools for tutoring, Mr. Jones reported that it is a true partnership for academic recovery and performance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kate Brady, 1092 Enon Road, Oxford, NC, Ms. Brady thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She provided the following notes regarding her public comments:

Points for the County Commissioner's Meeting on November 7, 2022

5-8-2022

Murphy's Ridge

Askeaton Realty, LLC is requesting approval of a 100-lot **preliminary** major Subdivision that would create 8 roads. The tract proposed for subdivision is off Enon Road.

Our community surrounding the area of this proposed subdivision is made up of family farms, thousands of acres of previously cultivated fields and forests teeming with wildlife, and few homes on large lots. We live here because it IS "in the country" and not heavily populated, where we have sought relief from the towns and cities, and desired to live in fresh air and the joy of nature. The addition of the proposed subdivision in our community would permanently destroy all the reasons we live here.

We have major concerns. The County may say that most of these issues have solutions, but it is in these 'solutions' that our way of life out here would be severely and negatively altered, and open the door for future, unwanted and unneeded development. This is "The Country" and we want to keep it that way.

Concerns and Issues

- **Water.** The geology in this area is mostly rock. We are deeply concerned for the availability of water in our area. Some residents already have issues with wells running dry during drought periods. On our personal property, continuously flowing springs and creeks have dried up in recent years during the summer. Adding wells to serve 100 homes will put our water availability at risk. We are also concerned that the septic systems will pollute the aquifers that supply the water, the area creeks and subsequently, the River. More homes mean more car washing, more lawn watering and fertilizing, and the leaching of harmful chemicals into our groundwater and the creeks that run through this property.

- **Unexploded Ordinance.** This property is within an area that was formerly used by the US Army for training purposes, and unexploded ordinance is known to be on this property. The developer stated at the last Planning Board meeting that they have done “due diligence” with respect to this issue. What exactly does that mean? We know that a contractor was in the area years ago looking for this ordinance, but was any ordinance located or removed from this property? Where is this survey documented, and how can it be accessed? One of our community residents stated that the power company refused to install underground service on his property due to safety concerns with the unexploded ordinance. If the power company refuses to dig, what does that mean for the building of roads, and the digging of wells, septic systems, and foundations on this property? We are very concerned for the safety of existing residents and homes in the area and for personnel safety during any future excavation activities.
- **Endangered Species.** We know that endangered Species are present in Granville County. This area is an isolated habitat for timber rattlesnakes, “one of the deadliest snakes in the US” (www.worldatlas.com) and is listed as “Species of Special Concern” by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. (www.ncwildlife.org). Has there been any official survey of this property for endangered plants and animals? If so, where is this documented and what were those findings? How will these species be protected?
- **Traffic.** Considering an average of 3 vehicles per household, the addition of the proposed 100 homes will bring about 300 vehicles to this area. Enon Road is already heavily traveled, has many areas of very limited visibility, has dangerous curves, and dangerous intersections at Range Road and Culbreth Road. Many crashes, some with fatalities, have occurred at these locations. More traffic will certainly mean more deaths to our wildlife, more crashes and damage to vehicles, and most likely, more fatalities.
- **Emergency Services.** This area is served by volunteer fire departments in Berea and Moriah, with backup from the volunteer fire department in Stem. Response times will be high. The Sherriff’s department can barely address the already increasing crime in our area. A subdivision in our community will be a prime target for break-ins, which will endanger all residents in this community.
- **Schools.** How is Granville County going to support all the new students from the approved and proposed 4500+ new households in our country?
- **Taxes.** We expect our property taxes to increase, and our property values to decrease. Is Granville County so desperate for this increase in revenue at the expense of the lives of existing residents and our environment?
- **Cell Service.** This area has antiquated cell service – if any at all – and we have no options for other carriers.
- **Lots for this subdivision** are already being offered for sale on several realty websites for \$75k per acre. The description touts “best of country living” and “privacy abounds in quiet and private large lot community. Fifty-seven of the 100 lots are only 1 acre and located side by side. How can this be described as “private” and large lot community? How can lots even be sold when the subdivision has not been approved?

My neighbors and I have brought and will continue to bring these and other concerns with more details and statistics regarding those concerns as we move forward. We intend to fight for the lives and environment we love out here.

In closing, this proposed subdivision is completely inappropriate for our community. There are no good reasons to approve it, and many reasons NOT to approve it. We live in this rural setting on large lots and acreage, because it is NOT heavily populated, and we have the benefit and joy of space, nature, wildlife, and peace. A highly populated subdivision in our community would have a permanent, severe negative impact on our lives, our property, the wildlife, and our environment. We expect YOU , our elected representatives, to stand up for US, your constituents and not a greedy land developer from Texas. The County does not need this subdivision, and **IT DOES NOT BELONG HERE.**

At this point, the recorder was not working.

• **Tony Hartwig, 4150 Jennings Way, Oxford, NC,** stated that he was also there to

address the Board on issues relating to Murphy’s Ridge. He stated that based on the EPA, the

water usage was currently 70,000 gallons per day. He stated that Murphy's Ridge has a country culture and they do not want to live in suburbia.

Next, Nathan Petersen walked in and spoke on behalf of Larry Strange who had signed up.

Nathan Peterson, 700 Enon Road, Oxford, NC, stated that he had had to call the Berea Fire Chief and that there were not enough water points for putting out fires. He stated that he had concerns about the pond water being used for putting out fires and had concerns. About what is going to be done about the lack of water resources for the community.

At 7:20, new recording started working.

William Parolini, 1212 New Grissom Way, Wake Forest, NC (the Preserve @ Smith Creek), stated he wanted to ask a few questions and the first was whether there had been a study of the water table in that area.

Chairman Cozart noted during public comments, the Board does not engage in back-and-forth conversations; however, they do listen very intently, and the appropriate staff will follow up with the concerns of the public.

Mr. Parolini stated that he was sure that the other people wanted to know the answers to some of these questions. He continued that he was going to ask a series of questions...

Chairman Cozart stated that the Board would gladly receive his questions if he wanted to leave them along with a contact number and that the questions would be given to appropriate staff for a response.

Mr. Parolini then reiterated his question as to whether there had been a study done of the water table. He continued that to the north of them, The Oaks was being planned along with a community well. He then asked what the implications of that would be. Would it affect their wells? He then asked if the Board could guarantee that these additional developments would not negatively affect their wells. He stated further that he did not believe that there had been a study done recently and was wondering why the rush for development without doing adequate studies. He continued that it seemed to him that "you guys" (the Board) were allowing any kind of rampant development. He asked what would happen if their wells failed. Was there a plan or were they just out of luck? Who would be the responsible party if their wells failed? What would happen in that instance? He continued that if the Board felt a responsibility to existing homeowners versus the developers—where does their responsibility

lie, to these outside parties who want to develop everything or to the homeowners who live there?

Terri Campbell, 9553 Summer Breeze Lane, Bullock, NC, apologized in advance because she stated that she is not much of a public speaker, but that this was important to her. She stated that she attended the March 21, 2022 meeting in support of a neighbor, Gary Wade, that addressed a concern for their whole neighborhood. Mr. Wade submitted a proposal to help with the ongoing conflict that they had in the northern part of the county with deer dog hunters (folks who hunt with dogs). She said that she was not opposed to hunting, but they had a huge issue out there. She stated that Gary Wade suggested a proposal and sent it to the Board and so, she would start her comments by asking a question. She wondered if the Board had done anything with this concern because they had not heard anything. Ms. Campbell referred back to the meeting minutes which said that Chairman Cozart thanked all of them for coming and sharing their comments and noted that the comments would be taken under advisement. So, she stated that she was not going to ask them that question but just assume that nothing had been done. She continued that hunting season was there again and she feared that once again, because they were not getting any support, that the residents in the northern part of their county would be harassed and intimidated by these hunters who hunt with dogs. Close to probably half of the days of hunting season last year, they had groups of hunters who let their dogs out on government land and they came straight across their private property. She stated that the hunters would gather at the entrance to their neighborhood on public land and wait for the dogs to come out. If the dogs did not come out, they would not come on their property because they had signs posted “No Trespassing”, so what they would do is bring 7-8-year-old kids in the truck with them and if the dogs did not come out, they knew we were not going to do anything to a 7-8-year-old kid for walking on our property; therefore, the little kids would come and get the dogs. Ms. Campbell stated that every time the dogs came on her property, her dogs were being attacked as her dogs are protective of her property. She stated that at least seven times last year, she had to break up dog fights on her own property because her dog was being attacked by someone else’s dog. She stated that she would load the dogs into her truck and take them to the end of the driveway where she encountered a group of armed strangers. They would have guns and rifles and she noted that it was absolutely terrifying, and it was the scariest thing she ever had to deal with. She stated that these encounters with the hunters became

increasingly tense last year. Ms. Campbell shared one incident where she stated to the hunters that they must keep the dogs off her property, and he lit a cigarette and literally blew smoke in her face. She stated that she was there to implore the Board that someone was going to get hurt and she did not want to be the one to say, “I told you so.” Ms. Campbell stated that she retired in 2015 from working for the Federal Bureau of Prisons and for 20 years while working there she carried a concealed carry in the event that she needed to protect herself or her family. When she retired, she did not feel the need any longer because she lived in the country—it’s a peaceful existence out there but “y’all are going to make me pull that gun out and load it” because she was not going to have people intimidate her on her own property. In closing, she stated that they reside in Wildlife District 5 and there are 11 counties in this district, 8 ½ of them have outlawed hunting with dogs. There are only 3 ½ counties, Granville County being one of them, that still allow this. She stated that she was not threatening anyone, but someone was going to get hurt as it is that dangerous out there. She invited any of the Board members to come to northern Granville County, up by the lake, by the Corp of Engineers property on a Saturday morning and just sit out there—it is like the wild west—there are guns and dogs everywhere.

Linda Bramigk, 627 Enon Road, Oxford, NC, Mrs. Bramigk read what she wrote as follows:

She is not a public speaker, but she was speaking from her heart. She stated that she is a visual person and she saw Murphy’s Ridge come through five weeks ago and she had to go see it, so she went, and printed it out. She stated that she wanted everyone to get a visual. Ms. Bramigk stated that they moved to Granville County in November 2020 after living 47 years on family land in Durham. They purchased a two-story home on 2 ½ acres that was built in 2000. This resident is currently 22 years old—so let’s get the visual—our home right here (and she pointed out to the Board)—and noted that their home is surrounded by the proposed neighborhood. This proposed development will surround their property on all three sides—she reiterated all three sides—and their driveway will be the only home with the entrance to Enon Road. This development proposed will back up to their property line with a proposed five-foot barrier right-of-way from their property line to the main thorough—this main road—which all these houses are going to come down this road and they are going to come by her house, which the proposed Phase I is 100 homes. It is going to be the main road for all these

residents. She stated that she is about growth in this county, she gets it, however, not on this property. She stated that they are two miles from the Person County line down Moriah, Berea, and Stem which are their townships, and this land parcel is very unique property and poses many obstacles for future growth and opportunity for Granville County. She continued that the obstacles are just like the previous people stated, water and wells. How will this affect their water table and sewage—our county has not had any bundle sewage system—how are they going to dispose of the sewage? Roads—they have a low Turnage road within a quarter of a mile from her driveway—they have a sharp curve—there is a half of a mile from this proposed driveway—the main road that is going to go into this development. Mrs. Bramigk stated that since she has lived there the past two years, one included a fatality on a motorcycle in that curve—with Duke Life Flight last year. She stated that they live in the Falls Watershed stormwater zoning for Granville County. They have no or very limited internet service and cell service. She said they have “Centurystink” noting it’s not good. The other obstacles, if they have this traffic that averages two cars per house—over 200 cars—just in Phase I of the neighborhood, trash, noise, and more noise, construction for years, and moving dirt. Also, safety—her safety—medical service, right now, their houses were burned down because most of the volunteers—not like they are in town and they have fire hydrants. Police, 9-1-1 responders. At this point, Ms. Bramigk shared some additional safety concerns. She stated that they are very remote out there and they like it. She talked about commerce—where the additional residents would shop? She stated that it would also affect their ecological world and shared some of those concerns. Lastly, she asked how did the developers list for 177 days, all these properties online through social media. She stated that they are acting as if this is a done deal. She stated that she was just curious as there is no posting, no name, no signs, and there is nothing to let their neighbors know what is proposed there. Her greatest fear is the detonated devices out there as they are in what was known as Camp Butner. When they moved out there on November 19th, their boxes were delivered and the next day their furniture was delivered, three days later she had the Granville County Law Enforcement show up and say that there was a device where they had been surveying this property and they needed to leave their home and they did after they had lived there for three days so there have to be some more devices out there. They said they did their due diligence at the last planning and zoning committee, and she would like to request the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of that due diligence.

She wants to know what exactly they found because she lived there for two years and she works from home remotely, and there is no dirt, or anything removed over there. So, she says it is danger—red flag—someone is going to get hurt and it is not worth it - danger, risk, liability for Granville County.

Kevin Jones, 4152 Blue Creek Lane, Oxford, NC, stated that he also wanted to speak on the Murphy's Ridge Subdivision. He stated that he wanted to quickly highlight some things regarding the unexploded ordinance. Mr. Jones stated that he has lived in that community for almost 27 years—he moved out there in 1996. Shortly after they moved in, the Army Corp of Engineers and Congress authorized money and they came out and surveyed two acres around the existing houses and they did not survey, to his knowledge, other properties. He continued that he owns seven acres and he has property that has not been, to his knowledge, surveyed and he said luckily he did all of his digging and did not hit anything. He said that a 105-millimeter hapner shell, but as used, shrapnel range for that is a half mile on an unexploded piece of explosion—basic shrapnel flies a half mile. He stated that they are approximately a half mile from that ridge. Mr. Jones stated that another issue for him is also traffic. At the curve that Ms. Bramigk, mentioned, there have been two Life Flight events out of that curve since he has been there, multiple wrecks and both individuals that were Life Flighted died. He said there is a blind hill at the top of a curve and that adding 400 cars and 180 houses along that curve, especially early in the morning when the sun is rising and a substantial number of cars coming through there adds a lot of risk. Another issue as mentioned earlier, is the response of emergency services. Mr. Jones then shared some other safety experiences. He stated that his other concern was adding that many more people out in the neighborhood there without proper protection and remote services—crime rates, theft, break-ins, etc.

Jesse Davi, 1100 Lake Ridge Drive, Creedmoor, stated that they had started this conversation about over-development in their area back in February 2022. He stated that they have presented USGS studies to commissioners, committees, subcommittees, and even the County Manager has looked at it recently. There are a lot of people that still to this day feel like their concerns are not being heard or taken seriously and he knows that this county has had a lot of bad press recently, the Sheriff situation, not once but twice, and the whole letter of credit the thing for the roads with developers being returned before the roads meet DOT standards and thereby leaving many of subdivisions holding the buck on getting those fixed.

He has heard that this has moved on to them possibly getting a consultant to look into the water situation that so many have expressed concerns with, and he hoped that the Board would do the right thing and hire someone that is unbiased, unassociated, and unaffiliated with anybody within Granville County. There are weird little things that happen in this county a lot that make people raise their eyebrows and noted that one of most recent things was that they found out that the person that ran their subcommittee for water does not even live in district 6, but somehow was a district 6 representative for the Environmental Affairs Committee. He continued how he was told that when the person was appointed, he lived in District 6 but then the district changed and now they were out of the district thereby being able to hold the position. He stated that he did not know if that was true or not but from what he saw, they were appointed in 2022 and from his understanding, the districts changed in November 2021, so either he was confused, or somebody was trying to pull shade over their eyes. Mr. Davi went on to say that he also agreed with some of the other points mentioned, such as safety issues with not enough water points in the area to provide fire safety to the residents and the future residents that they are developing for. He stated that he also agreed with the open forum as he had expressed this multiple times to many different people, that they should have open forums with experts for individuals to come and ask questions and get answers. He said he did not believe that telling citizens to ask the Planning Director was an appropriate answer. He continued that the government seemed to be more concerned with protecting the developers instead of protecting the people that have elected them. (note – this was discussed later in the meeting after appointments)

Eugene Feudale, 1521 Anterra Drive, Wake Forest, NC, stated that he lives in the subdivision right next to the Preserve and that he has been coming to these meetings and Planning Board meetings for the last few months and noticed that there are a lot of issues in the county such as water issue, safety, roads, etc. He continued that things fall through the cracks like the thing in Fayetteville at Camp Lejeune since 1950 and asked how did that ever happen? He referenced his subdivision Marshall Landing, where the developer came in, built that subdivision, and just left the roads subpar. The new subdivision, The Oaks, wants to connect to that he expressed concerns about all this traffic going in and out of there and he asked who is going to pay for their road. He stated that he has tried to get the Department of Transportation to come in and state maintain the roads, but the cost of it is astronomical. He

then asked if the developer of The Oaks could help to pay for their road if they are going to connect to their subdivision and asked how that works. He stated that their road is private and he would just like to know if he could get an answer for that.

Alice K. Meise, 1103 Lake Ridge Drive, Creedmoor, NC, stated that she lives in Falls Meadows and that she and Mr. Davi have been at the meetings many times about the roads and the water and that she was there this evening to say that it is the consensus that the Board need to take these meetings and they need to be broadcast. She stated that she was not asking but that she needed to know their plan and for someone to please get back to her within ten business days otherwise they were going to have to start taping the meetings somehow. She stated that this is public access and if the Board wanted a petition, they would get it. They need to know what is going on at the Commissioners' office and at the Planning Board and that it is non-negotiable. She stated that they want accountability for who is going to be assigned—

Commissioner May interjected and asked Ms. Meise to repeat her statement as he did not collect everything she said and asked what she was not receiving.

Ms. Meise stated that she wanted the Commissioners' meetings to be videotaped and broadcast so the people of Granville County, the taxpayers that pay their salary and who are working for us, and who are supposed to keep Granville County safe and healthy, that they need the meetings taped and to get back to her within ten days on how they were going to accomplish this. She continued that as Mr. Davi stated, there is supposed to be someone that would oversee the water study to prove, as everyone is concerned, whether they have enough water. Case in point, Granville County and Creedmoor are not known for water. There is a lot of talk about SGWASA and based on the Board's own advertisement, Creedmoor opens a new nature preserve featuring clean water and hiking trails. She asked who has to say clean water, well we do because it is associated with Granville County. Her address is Creedmoor, and they have to start advertising clean water—are they going to say adequate water—so get back to her ten days on this or when they are going to have someone to study the water table and make sure they are going to have adequate water. She stated that they will also have the state, DEQ, helping if there is a problem. She noted that they need to know that the person is non-biased and non-associated with anybody on the Board of Commissioners and/or the Planning Board. She then talked about her subdivision's roads being turned over to DOT

through Joe Panera LLC but that the roads were never turned over. She asked if they knew who paid for the roads and noted that her subdivision paid over \$100,000 five years ago. She stated that that was unacceptable, and she was not going to pay for anybody's oversight or something with the water. She stated that water is a safety and health issue, and they need a moratorium on buildings until it can be figured out. Ms. Meise shared the backgrounds of some of the residents and their expertise and stated that she needed to get information on members of the Board of Commissioners and the Planning Board. She said that she expected to be kept informed and the meetings of both Boards to be taped.

Chairman Cozart thanked everyone for their participation.

BOARD APPROVED GRANVILLE ATHLETIC PARK SPONSORS MURAL

Chairman Cozart stated that the purpose of this agenda item was design work and a sponsor program for the Granville Athletic Park Sponsors Mural.

At that moment, Commissioner Hinman interjected and asked the audience members who were leaving if these things were so important, why they were not staying for the meeting to hear what they had to say.

UPDATE ON DOG HUNTING AND WATER MATTERS

Commissioner May then asked County Attorney Wrenn what he could tell them about the issue regarding the dogs.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that as far as the dog hunting issue, they had addressed that issue and tried to adopt some restrictions on hunting with dogs in 2018. He said they learned that there was a lot of opposition in the General Assembly. The state law on the subject allows the Wildlife Resources Commission to regulate dog hunting in certain parts of the state, primarily, in parts of the state east of the following counties: Rockingham and Guilford, also that part of Alamance and Orange lying south of Interstate 85; in Chatham County, that part of Wake lying south of NC 98; and Lee, Randolph, Montgomery, Stanley, Union and that part of Anson lying west of NC 42. Therefore, you could draw a line based on that and Granville County happens to be east of what they call the dog line, and so the Wildlife Resources Commission has no ability to regulate in this area. There was an attempt back in 2018 through 2020 time period to expand the commission's authority over regulating dog hunting and that did not gain traction, and also Granville County's attempted statutory changes did not gain any

traction. Granville County has been told that there's not any appetite in the General Assembly to further restrict hunting with dogs and there is no local authority to do that either.

In regard to the hunting issue, Commissioner May stated that Attorney Wrenn had done quite a bit of work and research and determined that, at this point, there was nothing that the Board could move forward with, and asked if that was correct.

Attorney Wrenn stated that that was correct. He explained that they did have a Bill that was introduced, they hired a Lobbyist and they did a lot of things trying to address that issue, and reiterated that there is no local authority to adopt an ordinance that would be legally effective here, that the General Assembly will not take it up, and the Wildlife Resources Commission does not have the authority to regulate it.

Commissioner May asked for clarification regarding a hunter retrieving a dead animal on someone else's property when the property owner is fearful for herself or others and what their course of action would be.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that the course of action would be to call for law enforcement, either the Wildlife Commission or the Sheriff's Office, and if they are available they would respond to her in a reasonable amount of time.

Commissioner May asked County Manager Cummings if he had an opportunity to review the information regarding the water table matter that had been left with him by his predecessor, Mr. Logan, and asked the status as it had been brought up by citizens.

County Manager Cummings stated that he did have the opportunity to review quite of bit of material; however, he would hesitate to say that it was everything, but it was a good amount of information left in the office since he has taken over three weeks ago. He stated that he had also received a draft timeline from staff that he believed a few other people needed to look over. He stated that he has started a conversation about the possibility of having an expert panel or open forum that this Board may host at some point to get expert voices to answer citizens' questions. He has talked a fair bit with experts on their statutory authority in this area as well as on our staff's bandwidth horsepower as it currently stands, to do some of this work, but he believed that there was a variety of ways they could move this conversation forward. He noted that it is his intent to do that as quickly as staff capacity will allow.

Commissioner May stated that it was something that County Manager Cummings was examining and not being ignored as the Board had brought the matter to his attention and that

they are attempting to get something done to resolve it. He stated that in addition, a Planning Board Meeting is scheduled for November 17th and that citizens can attend and provide additional information to the Planning Board. He continued that the Board of Commissioners are quite concerned and made it clear that they are concerned on some of these issues, but again, as they pointed out at more than one public meeting, they do not have the authority at this point to request a land use moratorium. He said that is from counsel, from their Attorney and noted that they are not ignoring anyone that they want to do the right thing. He asked anyone with concerns to please come forth and let their concerns be known and that he could assure them that the Board is taking it very seriously. Commissioner May pointed out some accomplishments that the Board had just recently completed and that they are making progress. He continued that to be called out as someone that would be biased or corrupt in some manner, he took great offense to that, and he has spent close to 40 years of his life defending this country, whether in law enforcement or as a soldier and he takes great offense to that comment and challenges anyone that would like to challenge him in that regard. He continued that he has been a commissioner for two years and he can assure them that he has and will continue to do the right and honorable thing, and someone may not always agree with the decisions that the Board makes but he can assure them that they will follow the law and consult the Board Attorney constantly and will continue to do so.

Chairman Cozart stated that the Board has looked at many of these issues in the past and will continue to do so.

BOARD APPROVED GRANVILLE ATHLETIC PARK SPONSORS MURAL

Assistant County Manager Weichel stated that over the past few years, Granville County Government has received sponsorship donations for the Granville Athletic Park (GAP) and while they deeply appreciated these donations, they have been seeking ways to provide a means to recognize this support in a unique and lasting way. She stated further that a preliminary design for a new feature to recognize sponsors was first introduced at the 2022 Board Retreat. Since then, they have worked to finalize the design and to provide additional sponsor levels to accommodate lower donation levels, so the result of that work is included in the Board packets and there was an illustration of what this unique feature will look like once installed out on Phase III of the Park. She continued that they did plan to notify existing park sponsors of their eligibility for placement on the new mural while also reaching out to potential

new sponsors. She noted that the ultimate goal is that this sponsorship program would cover the cost of the mural as well as provide additional investment in the park. She stated that their early estimates for design fabrication and installation of the mural amounted to approximately \$27,500 and that included an electrical line to power the mural's light feature. Assistant County Manager Weichel noted that their recommendation included a not to exceed amount of \$30,000 to cover any unforeseen costs and/or increased costs due to ongoing supply chain issues and noted that funding for this was included in the continuation budget for fiscal year 2023 in the Parks and Grounds Capital Outlay budget.

Chairman Cozart thanked Mrs. Weichel for all the information and noted that the Board had discussed trying to get this done in the past and noted the recommendation in the agenda packet.

Commissioner Hinman made a motion to approve the recommendation and it was seconded by Commissioner Karan.

Chairman Cozart asked if there were questions or comments.

Commissioner Karan stated that he takes every opportunity to hold teammates and/or contributors up high as this is not a solo sport and he believes that there are sponsors that put time, effort, and money into our organizations and deserve to be recognized.

Commissioner May asked Assistant County Manager Weichel if she could point out the benefits of doing this because as he understood it, in time, it would pay for itself.

Assistant County Manager Weichel stated that is the goal of this sponsored program and that they will continue to seek additional sponsorships that ultimately would pay for the mural. She noted that sponsors will be recognized at a later date.

When Chairman Cozart called for a vote on the matter, it passed unanimously to approve the Granville Athletic Park Sponsors Mural program and fabrication/installation of the mural in a "not to exceed" amount of \$30,000 from the fiscal year 2022-2023 Parks and Grounds capital budget.

PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Commissioner May updated the Board on the pending Leandro decision which he understands is a matter between our Legislature and the North Carolina (NC) Supreme Court. He stated that just before the mid-term elections, the NC Supreme Court ruled that they could transfer funds to provide students with their constitutional right to a sound and basic education.

The NC Supreme Court upheld a lower court judge's November 2021 ruling requiring the state to fund the Leandro Plan which outlines steps to try to provide every child with highly qualified teachers and highly qualified principals. The case was sent back to the Trial Judge to determine how much monies will be transferred. An initial order had required a \$1.75 billion transfer and it was lowered to \$785 million. He noted that the matter is now back before a Trial Judge and so once that decision is made and finalized, it will be likely an additional increase of funding from the state to help support Granville County's funding.

BOARD REAPPOINTED TEJAS "TJ" BHAGAT (HOTEL/MOTEL OWNER) TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Chairman Cozart noted that the purpose of this item was to make an appointment/reappointment to the Granville County Tourism Development Authority (TDA).

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the reappointment of Tejas "TJ" Bhagat (hotel/motel owner) to the Granville County Tourism Development Authority.

BOARD APPOINTED SHURONDIA WILLIAMS TO THE OPIOID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Cozart noted that the purpose of this item was to fill the vacant Peer Support Representative on the Opioid Advisory Committee and that the recommendation coming from the Opioid Advisory Committee was to appoint Shurondia Williams to fill that peer-support position.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Shurondia Williams (peer-support representative) to the Opioid Advisory Committee.

BOARD APPOINTED LAWRENCE LUNSFORD (ALTERNATE) TO THE SOUTH GRANVILLE MEMORIAL GARDENS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Cozart noted that the purpose was to fill a vacancy on the South Granville Memorial Garden (SGMG) Board of Trustees and that the recommendation of the SGMG Board of Trustees was to appoint Lawrence Lunsford to fill that alternate position.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Lawrence Lunsford (alternate) to the South Granville Memorial Garden Board of Trustees.

BOARD REAPPOINTED JIMMY GOOCH TO THE SOUTH GRANVILLE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board reappointed Jimmy Gooch for a three-year term on the South Granville Water and Sewer Authority (SGWASA).

BOARD APPOINTED LARRY HESTER (DISTRICT 1) TO THE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, the Board approved the appointment of Larry Hester to replace Michael Allen on the Veterans Affairs Committee.

CLARIFICATION ABOUT APPOINTING OUTSIDE A DISTRICT

Commissioner Sue Hinman asked if when the Board is appointing someone from their respective districts and a person cannot be located, can they appoint someone from another district who agreed to serve on the committee? She went on to state that it had nothing to do with the Board rezoning the district.

Chairman Cozart stated that he has had to do that on occasion but that it just so happened that the person had just recently moved back into his district.

Chairman Gooch stated that when looking at all of the Board's committees, it is quite often that you have someone appointed from another district and that it is not an uncommon occurrence, and it is certainly not illegal.

Commissioner Cozart went on to say that sometimes the person's skillset helps strengthen the committee and it is in the best interests of that committee to have that resource.

County Manager Cummings stated that he had spoken with the Clerk at some length about this and what he believes may be helpful to members of the public who were in attendance, is that the district-by-district appointments are by convention, that they are by mutual agreement of the Board members and not written in Board procedures or the founding documents of any of the Board. He continued that he believed it is important but that it is just by Board convention and that it would not be in violation of any rules of procedure or the founding documents for any of these advisory Boards.

BOARD APPROVED RETIREMENT, SURPLUS, AND DISPOSITION OF SHERIFF'S OFFICE CANINE

County Manager Cummings noted that the purpose of this item was to consider retiring, declaring surplus, and transferring ownership of the Granville County canine unit (Slick) to

the former handler Sergeant Wesley Parrish for a sale price of \$1. He stated that this was the first time that he had dealt with this specific issue, so he spent a little bit of time researching the matter, talking with the Sheriff and considering the various details; and talking with the Internal Auditor and Finance Director because it is true that a canine is a valuable asset to the County Law Enforcement, and he wanted to observe that. He said that the rules are very stringent rules about how the county disposes of property and the county does have some precedence of both selling service animals and of retiring them and selling them for \$1 in essence giving them to their former handler if the situation warranted. He continued that this was a dog that was over 6 years old and was donated to the county and deemed difficult to train but successfully trained by the handler who had already left the County. He said that he believed given the circumstances and limited additional work life that this dog might have had and the difficulty in finding another handler who could handle him, that this made sense. An additional protection that we are offering the county that does not seem to be any intention to put this dog back to work for another agency, but if it is, the handler would be signing an agreement with the county that there would be a payment back to the county of \$1,000 should that occur. With that, he stated that his recommendation is to move forward with the retirement surplus and sale of the dog to its former handler for \$1.

Commissioner Gooch made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Sheriff and County Manager. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Chairman Cozart called for questions.

Commissioner Hinman expressed concerns since recently this was done with another dog that she was afraid that this was going to start an avalanche. She asked what the normal length of service for a canine is.

Sheriff Hardy stated that he had been told by Sergeant. Parrish, the County's canine expert, that typically six to seven years was the life span.

Commissioner Hinman noted that they were not only losing the dog but his handler as well and asked how many other dogs the Canine Unit has.

Sheriff Hardy stated that that was correct, and they currently have three more canines and he had not been told if any other handlers were planning on leaving.

Commissioner May shared that like Commissioner Hinman, he would want to make sure that that program was getting the proper review so that they do not have a sudden loss of additional canines.

Commissioner Hinman asked if they could look at purchasing some other dogs before they were down to zero dogs in the future.

Sheriff Hardy stated that they could certainly take a look at that.

When Chairman Cozart called for a vote, the Board unanimously approved the retirement, surplus and transfer ownership of the Granville County canine Slick to the former handler Sergeant Wesley Parrish for a sale price of \$1.

BOARD APPROVED EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION BONUSES

County Manager Cummings noted that the purpose of this item was for the Board to consider approving the proposed repurposing of unspent fiscal year 2022-2023 salary and benefit funds for the purposes of one-time employee bonuses and to authorize the County Manager to plan and execute the delivery of this additional pay to Granville County Employees. He stated that he appreciated the time that each one of them took with him to discuss this item. He continued that earlier in 2022, with serious staffing shortages at the Detention Center, this Board approved significant recruitment bonuses for new Detention Center Staff as well as for existing staff who were in a position to help make those recruits successful. Those bonuses have proven a significant motivator, helping to fill 14 critical vacancies in just 4 short months. County Manager Cummings continued that the EMS System, which is operated by Granville Health System, has offered significant pay adjustments in the past months and Board discussions here over the past few months, and if he could be frank, Board discussions throughout the county and region have shifted their focus to broader challenges for public safety staffing. He went on to state that the Granville County Sheriff's Department Patrol Division has nearly as many vacancies now as the Detention Center had a few months ago. A situation that is clearly concerning to the Board, to him, and to the citizens and throughout our organization, staffing vacancy rates throughout have approached or exceeded 20% at a number of times over the past several years. Staffing shortages in any Department have the effect of putting additional pressure on the remaining employees, increasing workloads, making it difficult to take vacations, etc. noting that the pandemic and these staffing shortages have been hard on all of our employees. The vacancies have also led

to considerable savings. He stated in the current year, staff estimates these savings for a total of about \$1.3 million and it is pleasing to him to put before the Board a proposal to use a substantial portion of that savings to do several things: First, to help fill current gaps in the Sheriff Office Patrol Division with special recruitment bonuses of up to \$5,000; to make the same effort with our 9-1-1 emergency communicators, and to reward loyal employees in all of our departments who have put in overtime, missed vacations, and in general gone the extra mile to make sure high-quality county services continue to be available to the residents of Granville County, and though a few small details remain in flux, the proposal in front of them, does just that. He stated that the cost of the proposed recruitment and retention bonuses is just under \$1 million with significant focus on our remaining public safety recruitment and retention challenges. County Manager Cummings stated that he wanted to reiterate that all of this can be afforded within the current year fiscal budget and also that they will continue to consider a variety of permanent adjustments to the salary schedule for fiscal year 2023-2024 and beyond to make sure that Granville County remains a competitive employer for top talent in this region.

Chairman Cozart thanked County Manager Cummings and stated that he was very happy to see this come forth and he reiterated some of County Manager Cummings points in his presentation. He then asked for questions or comments.

Commissioner May wanted to know what the communication plan for the employees.

County Manager Cummings stated that they would be meeting with Department Heads the following morning and with Sheriff's Office Command Staff that same afternoon to roll this out and let everyone know what the plan is. He stated that the detailed plan was not before them at this meeting because small details of that plan might shift and the number of employees entered into categories can also change over time. He stated that County Attorney Wrenn just asked a good question and that there is a request of authority that if it is not stated clearly there the request is of course to authorize the County Manager to make to make these shifts in currently budgeted salary and benefit amounts to make these benefits for recruitment and retention possible.

Commissioner May stated that should be included in the motion that the County Manager has the liberty to make the appropriate discretionary decision in regard to how to make this work and provide the bonuses to the county employees as expeditiously as possible.

Commissioner May made a motion to approve the recommendation of the County Manager with the additional language and it was seconded by Commissioner Hinman. However, Commissioner Hinman had the following statement. She thanked County Manager Cummings for going back and seeing that they actually have funding to be able to do this, not only for the Sheriff's Department but for every single employee that is in Granville County that has done their jobs and kept Board members informed of what is going on. She stated that it shows the employees that the Board does appreciate what they do for them, and they know that they are sincere.

Commissioner May stated, for the public's sake, that this is all from the budget; that they are not going outside of the budget or having to readjust the budget to retrieve funds from their fund balance and he also thanked the County Manager as well.

Chairman Cozart stated that there was a motion and a second to approve the request with the language from Vice-Chair May that the County Manager has the liberty to make the appropriate discretionary decision in regard to how to make this work and provide the bonuses to our employees as expeditiously as possible.

Chairman Gooch stated that he just wanted to make sure that everyone is clear that this is being done pre-election before there are any results are in and that the Board is not playing politics but that they are working for their employees with the County.

Chairman Cozart stated that that was a good point.

County Manager Cummings stated that although it is complicated and there is a lot of work to do between his first meeting and his second meeting, this also feels good to him, and it feels good to help employees that he knows deserve it.

When Chairman Cozart called for the question, the vote was unanimously carried, to approve repurposing unspent fiscal year 2022-2023 salary and benefit funds for the purposes of one-time employee bonuses and authorized the County Manager to plan and execute the delivery of this additional pay to Granville County employees at an estimated cost of \$965,000.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney Wrenn did not have anything to report.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

Commissioner Karan stated that, as commissioners, they all share their virtual office and provided those in attendance with his phone number and stated that they would love to

hear from them. He continued that the phone number would be answered by a live person between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday and just asked to be transferred to their commissioner. He reported that there is a District 6 vacancy on the Economic Development Commission and asked that anyone from District 6 or any other district in the county that has economic development experience, preferably from his district, to please reach out to him. He continued that Bridgestone Bandag received a Building Reuse Grant and that Harry Mills and his team were instrumental in securing that new \$1.6 million project to bring 61 new jobs to that plant which was announced on November 1, 2022. He stated that many attended the CertainTeed Groundbreaking Ceremony on November 4th, another Economic Development project that the Economic Development Team has brought to Granville County and of course worked with all of the other departments and agencies as well. He stated that he attended a ribbon cutting for a new trail on the southern end with their partnership with the Tar River Land Conservancy which added another 1.9 miles of trail to their area. One of the funding agencies through that process was the State Attorney General's Office, his Environmental Affairs Enhancement Program through some of the tobacco settlements that the state has received so that is why it is important that the City of Raleigh also contribute to that project to protect their clean water that flows from that Creek directly into the drinking water source of a million people in the region around Raleigh and Wake County. He stated that he also has a Library Board of Trustees opening for an appointment on that Board. He said that whoever spoke about the Board being biased, this had gotten old because he had asked that the Environmental Affairs Committee to report back to them, and he had also asked for a professional consultant to come and gather the data and compile some of the information that is out there. He stated that it is being looked at very seriously and as far as a 10-day turnaround, he was sorry but that was not the speed with which County Government works. He stated that in regard to making a video of the meetings, the Board has had such conversations at their Board Retreats and looked at the infrastructure that would be required to do it and noted that the seven individuals who serve on the Board have taken it under advisement and at that point and time, it was not acted upon. He talked about using social media and not having it as public record would be a disservice to the offices that they hold. He stated that as far as community outreach, there was a different type of vein that the Board could use and they are using their in-house to push some media platforms and keep a public record.

Commissioner Gooch stated that in reference to what was stated about social media, the keyboard warriors on social media are not constrained by facts or the truth. He stated that they form their own opinions and present their opinions as facts and unless you tell them what they want to hear, people are not listening. He continued that they do not want to hear that the Board is constrained by rules and regulations and there are things that they simply cannot do. He noted that the view from here is much different from the view out there because the Board understands their limits and limitations and unfortunately, the public does not. Commissioner Gooch gave special thanks to the new County Manager because he found a way to make things work.

Commissioner Jay stated that he attended the CertainTeed groundbreaking and it was great. He gave kudos to Economic Development because they are working hard for Granville County. He stated that they are working with industries that are already here and commended Harry Mills and staff for doing a great job. He continued that he also visited Durham Tech and they met with representatives from all the counties in this region and that they discussed the kids that are left behind and how they are trying to get them back up to par by the year 2030. He noted that some of the children got behind during the pandemic and they did not have broadband and that they discussed how to get them back on target because the children are our future leaders. He stated to Commissioners Karan and Gooch that he knows that they are tired after having to spend so much time at the polls during the election because he also was tired of all the negativity and candidates talking about each other instead of telling the citizens what they are going to do for the people.

Commissioner. Smith stated that he appreciated everyone that was able to attend the recent Holiday Bazaar at the Senior Center. He reported that they had a good turnout, but he did not get to attend because he was under the doctor's care. He continued that many went to their official announcement of the new North Granville Senior Center in Stovall. He said it was a proud moment for the entire Board as well as the citizens of Granville County. He appreciated the support from the Board and noted that the Senior Center in Oxford would be having a Veterans recognition breakfast on Thursday morning, November 10th at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioner Hinman stated that she apologized for getting so upset but it is aggravating when you work as hard as this Board does and then are told that they are hiding things when they are not. She stated that they all work very hard and try to make sure that

employees are taken care of as well as every single citizen. She continued that it takes time to get this information out, especially researching water tables and things of that nature and it does not get done overnight.

Commissioner May stated that the Wilton Convenience Site is open, and the extra lane was added and that will save the County close to \$200,000 by doing the work inside the facility rather than outside. He stated that he was glad that all of the issues were brought forth noting that is what this forum is about — about people bringing forth their concerns and having candid and open dialog about it. He said that he does not mind challenging any member on the Board, the County Attorney, or the Manager in regard to what they should or should not be doing and everyone that knows him, knows that to be true. He stated that because the gentleman was still there that brought up the issue about Marshall Landing, the issue was brought up directly with County Attorney Wrenn and with an attorney from the neighborhood, therefore, he believed that there had been some coordination on that matter, or that it would be. He thanked the Board for their assistance as he had knee replacement surgery and he also thanked them for helping him prepare for this meeting as well. He thanked everyone in attendance and stated that the Board has nothing to hide, they take their complaints seriously, they should be responsive, and they are doing their best to be responsive. He stated that he knows that County Manager Cummings has been challenged from day one to be responsive to these issues and has taken them on and that is the best that anyone can ask for. He then asked Sheriff Hardy if they were moving along with the scanner and asked if he could give the Board a brief report on that process.

Sheriff Hardy stated that they have worked out the possibility of maybe using some of the county funds and asset forfeiture funds together to minimize the cost of the county.

Commissioner May noted that the scanner is important to the Board members because they believe that that is a piece of equipment that is needed for the betterment of public safety and of the citizens of Granville County. He also noted that the school system did get funding for some School Resource Officers and that there is some additional funding available, and they need to find out why Granville County was not the recipient of a much larger sum. He added that he and Commissioner Cozart would be looking into that.

Chairman Cozart noted that Elliott Clark was in the audience and asked if he had any comments or introductions that he wished to make.

Mr. Clark stated that he had one of his Senior Leaders with him as well. He stated that in his previous report to the Board, they talked about an open-access clinic that they had in development. He reported that a lease had been signed and they would be operational a little bit quicker than they anticipated. As a reminder, that particular provider will operate an open-access model of care so that folks cannot only have an appointment to come but can just walk through the door on any level of need. He also reminded the Board that they will have a presentation to the Board on November 21st to share some dashboard information and some additional updates from Vaya Health.

Chairman Cozart noted the Citizen's Academy will be held on Thursday at the Sheriff's Office at 6:00 p.m. He continued that it was so gratifying to be at CertainTeed on Friday and noted that he had the opportunity to work there as a 21-year-old. He stated that the fact that CertainTeed has stayed with the county and is such a good corporate citizen investing in this county the way they have, it was really a very special moment to participate in that event. He stated to Commissioner Jay that this whole thing of learning loss and learning, especially math skills that are sequential, is going to take years to get our children back on track. He stated that he looked forward to all the Veterans Day services that would be taking place that week as he has a lot of respect for those who paid that debt of service. He asked any Veterans present to please stand to be recognized. Lastly, he acknowledged Sheriff Hardy and thanked him for his leadership. He noted that some people come into roles for a season and take on the role of a caretaker, but that he did not come in as a caretaker but as someone who tried to make a difference.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Commissioner Jay reminded everyone about displaying green lights this week in support of our Veterans.

BOARD ADJOURNED

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Weary, NCMCC, CMC
Clerk to the Board