

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA
October 3, 2022

The Members of the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Granville County, North Carolina met in a regular meeting on Monday, October 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, Granville Expo and Convention Center, 4185 US Highway 15 South, Oxford.

Present were:

Chair: Tony W. Cozart

Commissioners: Jimmy Gooch Timothy Karan
Sue Hinman Russ May
Zelodis Jay David T. Smith

Interim County Manager: Doug Logan
Assistant County Manager: Korena Weichel
County Attorney: James C. Wrenn, Jr.

News Reporters: Amanda Dixon – *Butner-Creedmoor News*
Donna Perkins – *Oxford Public Ledger*

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Tony W. Cozart called the meeting to order. He then recognized Commissioner Sue Hinman for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Hinman asked Reverend Leroy Anderson to do the invocation. After the invocation, Commissioner Hinman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

(A) Approved the Summary of Contingency and Use of Fund Balance as follows:

General Contingency Balance	\$	157,750
School Bond D/S Contingency	\$	350,000
Environmental Disaster Contingency	\$	10,000
General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance	\$	5,151,630

(B) Approved Budget Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as follows:

Budget Amendment #1
10/03/2022

Be it ordained, the FY 2022-2023 Annual Budget Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

GENERAL FUND

Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)

General Government

Governing Board	22,250
Administration	30,856
Public Safety	
Emergency Management	37,450
911 Operations	850,000
Community Services	
County Library System	25,800

	Construction Projects	637,500	
	Economic Development	(10,000)	
Human Services			
	Granville-Vance District Health Dept	(40,000)	
	Social Services	208,070	
Area Projects and Other Appropriations			
	Special Projects	52,385	
	Non-Departmental	(30,856)	
Contributions to Other Funds			
	Contributions	1,300	
	Contingencies	(22,250)	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		1,762,505
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Restricted and Intergovernmental	77,151	
	Appropriated Fund Balance	1,685,354	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		1,762,505

LANDFILL FUND

Expenditures:Increase/(Decrease)			
	Landfill Operations	60,000	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		60,000
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Appropriated Fund Balance	60,000	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		60,000

EQUITABLE SHARING/FORFEITURE

Expenditures:Increase/(Decrease)			
	Forfeiture Expenditures	(500,000)	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		(500,000)
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Federal Seizure Fundd	(500,000)	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		(500,000)

E-911 FUND

Expenditures:Increase/(Decrease)			
	Phone System & Furniture	(2,500)	
	Software Operations	2,500	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		0

	Budget Amendment #1		
(For reference only)			Balance

General Fund/Special Appropriations			
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)			
10- 8500 813	ACIM	\$40,000	\$50,000
10- 5190 696	Annual Allocation	(\$40,000)	\$985,000

Description: Correct original FY 2023 budget, by moving \$40K Funding Enhancement to ACIM. Funds were initially placed in Granville County Public Health in error.

General Fund/Emergency Management			
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)			
10- 4330 540	Capital Outlay - Cars	\$37,450	\$37,450
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)			
10- 3990 991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$37,450	\$3,503,726

Description: Carry over previous year funding for scheduled purchase of truck.

General Fund/Pass Through			
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)			
10- 8580 107	Initial Allocation/Unallocated	(\$249,037)	\$963
10- 8580 109	Administrative	\$6,177	\$6,177
10- 8580 108	Comm Connections (Youth Villages)	\$70,298	\$70,298
10- 8580 108	Comm Connections (Y.V.) - Level II	\$103,914	\$103,914
10- 8580 112	Boys and Girls Club(Positive Actions)	\$30,684	\$30,684
10- 8580 146	Trails to Success (Shepard Yth Ranch)	\$37,964	\$37,964

Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)					
10-	3583	329	Initial Allocation/Unallocated	(\$223,513)	\$26,487
10-	3583	330	Administrative	\$3,810	\$3,810
10-	3583	331	Comm Connections (Youth Villages)	\$58,582	\$58,582
10-	3583	331	Comm Connections (Y.V.) - Level II	\$103,914	\$103,914
10-	3583	338	Boys and Girls Club (Positive Actions)	\$25,570	\$25,570
10-	3583	342	Trails to Success (Shepard Yth Ranch)	\$31,637	\$31,637
10-	3583	334	4-H Best	\$61,238	\$61,238
10-	3833	849	4-H Best Program Revenue	(\$20,000)	\$0
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	(\$41,238)	\$3,462,488

Description: Adjust funding for FY 2023 JCPC programs per the Department of Public Safety Funding Plan. 4-H Best expenditures are already in the original budget ordinance.

General Fund/Economic Development

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4920	640	Oxford Downtown	(\$10,000)	\$20,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	(\$10,000)	\$3,452,488

Description: Correct original FY 2023 budget by reducing allocation to Downtown Oxford Economic Development Corporation from \$30K to 2\$20K.

General Fund/E-911

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4390	352	Repairs and Maintenance	\$850,000	\$995,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$850,000	\$4,302,488

Description: Carry over previous year funding for the replacement of the County-wide simulcast paging system, as approved by the Granville County BoCC on February 22, 2022.

General Fund/Library

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	6110	585	Capital Outlay - ECF Grant	\$5,800	\$5,800
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3611	362	ECF Grant	\$5,800	\$5,800

Description: Budget expenditures (purchase of laptops) and corresponding grant revenue from the ECF grant.

General Fund/Construction Projects

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4251	901	Court Complex	\$630,000	\$721,500
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$630,000	\$4,932,488

Description: Carry over previous year funding for the repairs to 143 Williamsboro Street - DSS Child Support Services. Funds are carried over from 10-251-604 Sheriff Department Renovations.

General Fund/Library

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	6110	587	ALA COVID Relief Expenditures	\$20,000	\$20,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3611	870	ALA COVID Relief Grant	\$20,000	\$20,000

Description: Recognize receipt of funds and budget expenditures related to the ALA Covid Relief Fund Grant.

General Fund/Governing Board

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4110	199	Professional Services	\$22,250	\$27,050
10-	9910	991	General Contingency	(\$22,250)	\$157,750

Description: Fund Developmental Associates, LLC to assist in the search for County Manager.

General Fund/Contributions to Other Funds

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	9800	031	Transfer to CARES Election/HAVA Grant	\$1,300	\$1,300
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Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,300	\$159,050
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Description: Refunding the unspent balance of CARES Act Supplemental Fund owed to the NC State Board of Elections.

General Fund/Construction projects

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	4251	442	GAP Improvements	\$7,500	\$7,500
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Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$7,500	\$166,550
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Description: Carry over funding from FY 2022 to pour nine concrete pads for the disc golf course at the G.A.P.

General Fund/Non-Departmental

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	8500	657	Human Relations Council	\$12,385	\$19,485
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Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$12,385	\$178,935
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Description: Carry over the unspent FY 2022 funds from the Human Relations Council.

General Fund/Administration

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	4120	121	Salaries	\$21,581	\$493,450
10-	4120	181	FICA	\$1,650	\$37,693
10-	4120	182	Retirement	\$2,625	\$58,740
10-	4120	395	Registration and Training	\$5,000	\$8,500
10-	8540	111	Position Reclass	(\$30,856)	\$69,144

Description: Fund additional salary and fringe expenses for new county manager for the balance of FY 2023.

General Fund/Social Services

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	5300	493	IV-D Incentive Funds (from FY2017)	\$139,963	\$261,336
10-	5300	630	FEDERAL ADOPTION INCENTIVES	\$55,494	\$76,131
10-	5300	635	Family Reunification	(\$5,674)	\$9,089
10-	5300	639	LIHWAP	(\$9,955)	\$85,411

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$195,457	\$374,392
10-	3538	332	Public Assistance	(\$15,629)	\$294,386

Description: Carry over the unspent FY 2022 IV-D incentive and Federal Adoption Incentive funds, as well as the reinstatement of Public Assistance funding (DSS BA #1).

General Fund/Social Services

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	5300	637	Child Care	\$2,500	\$2,500
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Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$2,500	\$376,892
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Description: Budget expenditure of funds received May 2019 from DHHS Division of Child Development, but not yet spent for DHHS purposes, per DHHS verification received Jan 5, 2022. (DSS BA #2.)

General Fund/Social Services

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10-	5300	510	Capital Outlay	\$25,742	\$25,742
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3538	332	Public Assistance	\$25,742	\$320,128

Description: Recognize receipt of funds reimbursed by the SNAP program. (DSS BA #3)

Landfill Fund					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
60-	4725	641	White Good Expenditures	\$60,000	\$60,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
60-	3991	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$60,000	\$3,923,895

Description: To fund repair of wheel loader and various other charges by Gregory Pool Equipment, as approved by the Granville County BoCC as of March 21, 2022.

Equitable Sharing/Forfeiture Fund- DoJ					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
51-	4311	000	Forfeiture Expenditures	(\$200,000)	\$185,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
51-	3431	411	Federal Seizure Funds	(\$200,000)	\$190,000

Description: Correction to reflect original FY 2023 budget ordinance.

Equitable Sharing/Forfeiture Fund- Treasury					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
52-	4312	510	Forfeiture Expenditures	(\$300,000)	\$0
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
52-	3431	411	Federal Seizure Funds	(\$300,000)	\$290,000

Description: Correction to reflect original FY 2023 budget ordinance.

E-911 Fund					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
27-	4500	321	Phone System	(\$2,500)	\$97,500
27-	4501	354	Recorder Software	\$2,500	\$22,500

Description: Reallocate 911 Fund budget due to increase in maintenance contract and new primary recorder .

(C) Approved Tax Refunds, Releases & Write-offs as follows:

Refunds	August 2022:	\$48,517.31
Releases	August 2022:	\$82,659.74
Write-offs (\$2 and less)	August 2022:	\$ 53.81

(D) Approved the Minutes of the January 4, 2022 and January 18, 2022 Regular Meetings.

(E) Approved the Restatement of Granville County FLSA Work Periods as follows:

- (1) Maintaining the existing Section 207(k) exemption with the 28-day work period which begins on Monday at 12:00 am and ends on Sunday at 11:59 pm for eligible Sheriff’s Office law enforcement and detention positions; and
- (2) Clarifying that the existing FLSA standard workweek which begins on Sunday at 12:00 am and ends on Saturday at 11:59 pm will continue to be observed for all other full- and part-time positions following implementation of the bi-weekly pay schedule adjustments previously approved on August 8, 2022.

BOARD RECOGNIZED LEADERSHIP GRANVILLE 2022-2023 CLASS

Chairman Cozart noted that for those who were not present, the Board had an opportunity to share informally with the Leadership Granville class before the meeting and he then recognized Lynn Allred, Rosalyn Green, and Annette Myers who are on the Leadership Granville Steering Committee.

Chairman Cozart stated that both the Board and class had an opportunity to introduce themselves. He then asked if anyone from the Leadership Granville class had any questions or comments they would like to make. He stated that the Board was excited to have them attend the meeting and invited them at that time to ask questions or make any comments on their behalf. There were none, however, Chairman Cozart stated that if at any time they had questions or comments to please contact Mrs. Debra Weary and she would be glad to relay those questions or comments to the Board. He then asked the class to come forth and receive the Granville County 275 Year Commemorative Books, coins, and the “Grow with Granville” books. At that time, Chairman Cozart also recognized Commissioners Sue Hinman, Timothy Karan, and Zelodis Jay as graduates of the Leadership Granville class and asked them to help give out tokens of appreciation.

Clerk Weary read the following names of those that had completed the class:

Angela Miles	Human Resources Director
Audrey Pegram	Income Maintenance Caseworker III
Allison Satterfield	Academic Interventionist Specialist
Briana Abott	School Social Worker (K-12)
Courtney Currin	Director of Federal Compliance & Personnel
Dr. Janita Allen	Principal, Granville Central High School
Octavia Driessen-Meadows	Federal Programs Coordinator
Harrison Preddy	Attorney
Lina Howe	Extension Agent, 4-H & Youth Development
Richard Lotozynski	Realtor
Alison Wilson	Human Resources Manager
Larry Wilson	President/Owner
Lauren Wilkinson	Owner
Lesley Jones	U.S. Tax Director

Commissioner Hinman encouraged others to consider taking the Leadership Granville class.

INTRODUCTION OF MR. DREW CUMMINGS, APPOINTED COUNTY MANAGER

Chairman Cozart stated that he wanted to introduce someone that the County would be hearing a lot about and that the Board is very excited to have come and be a part of Granville County family. He then introduced Mr. Drew Cummings, the recently named County Manager

for Granville County. He stated that in September 2022, the Granville County Board of Commissioners selected Mr. Drew Cummings as its next permanent County Manager following the departure of Mr. Michael Felts. He continued that Mr. Cummings has come to Granville County from Durham County as an Assistant County Manager and Chief of Staff for the past 14 years. Preceding his work in Durham County, he previously held several positions in municipal government and worked for seven years as a middle school teacher before entering the local government profession. A member of the International City-County Management Association (ICMA) as well as the North Carolina City and County Managers Association since 2004, Mr. Cummings achieved his ICMA Credentialed Manager status in 2021 and is also a graduate of the UNC School of Government's Public Executive Leadership Academy. He is a graduate of Harvard University, holding a BA in Government and received his Master's in Public Policy from the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy. Mr. Cummings is a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan and graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School. He and his wife Amy have three school-aged children. Chairman Cozart announced that Mr. Cummings will officially take the position of Granville County Manager on Monday, October 17, 2022.

Chairman Cozart asked Mr. Cummings if he would like to share any comments and noted that he and the Board are certainly looking forward to his leadership here in Granville County. He thanked him for accepting the offer to come and be their leader and they are excited about having him.

Mr. Cummings thanked Chairman Cozart for the warm introduction and for the offer of employment and that he could not have been more excited to accept the offer. He shared about his first experience while driving through Oxford, how he wondered what wonderland he had landed himself in. He stated that that was close to 20 years ago when he moved to North Carolina and a couple of years ago, he had passed that watershed moment where he had lived in North Carolina longer than anywhere else and so this is home. He stated that he does have two high schoolers and one middle schooler. He then extended a special welcome to the Leadership Granville participants. He continued that he would describe Granville County as an \$80 million a year company that produces hundreds of different products and services. He stated further that it is really complicated, and it takes sustained attention to figure out what is going on and how it is going on and so he appreciates their commitment to learn more and that

he is looking forward to working with them and seeing their faces in a lot of different settings interacting with the community. Mr. Cummings thanked everyone again for the warm welcome that all of them and County Manager Logan extended to him, and said he looked forward to seeing more of everyone in the future.

Chairman Cozart then presented a 275th-anniversary commemorative book and coin and invited Mr. Cummings to look at the rich history of Granville County. He welcomed him on behalf of the Board and said he looked forward to all the great things that will happen under his leadership.

PROCLAMATION HONORING SERVICE OF MICHAEL K. "MIKE" ALLEN

Chairman Cozart stated that unfortunately, Mr. Allen was not able to attend the meeting but that the Board is determined to honor him as soon as possible for his service to the county. He asked that everyone pray for Mr. Allen's strength and that the Board looked forward to recognizing him at a later date.

BOARD ADOPTED RESOLUTION OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS SERVICES

Chairman Cozart asked Chris Dethmers, Veterans Service Officer, and Commissioner Timothy Karan to come forward.

Commissioner Karan read a Resolution in Support of Operation Green Light and presented it to Chris Dethmers.

Mr. Dethmers thanked the Board of Commissioners for spearheading this initiative. He explained that this is a new program sponsored by the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veterans Services Officers and is a way to show support for Veterans; especially as they transition back to the civilian sector. He stated further that it is a way to show support for the service-connected benefits that Veterans Services offer, their mental health benefits, any criminal justice diversion, and homelessness prevention. He stated that, as a county and county representatives, they are oftentimes first-line involved with these Veterans in every single one of those categories if not more. He said that this is a great show of appreciation for Veterans, but that this will also not do anything financially for a single veteran, so let this be a starting point to move forward. He stated that there are some press releases and some letters to the editors that are examples, and he will submit to Congress a sample letter for our delegation to support the federal county funds for the services and benefits

previously mentioned. He thanked everyone and stated that he would be glad to answer any questions.

When asked where the green lights could be obtained, it was noted that Amazon and the local Ace Hardware have them.

Chairman Cozart stated to Mr. Dethmers that he appreciated his leadership and asked Commissioner Karan if he would move forward with the motion to adopt the Resolution that was read for the record.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution in Support of
Operation Green Light for Veterans**

WHEREAS, the residents of Granville County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens, and Granville County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veteran Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes, and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the County of Granville appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, the Granville County Board of Commissioners hereby declares from October through Veterans Day, November 11th, 2022, a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, the Granville County Board of Commissioners will encourage its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jesse Davi, 1100 Lake Ridge Drive, Creedmoor, NC, stated that his comments were based around the qualifications for the Ground Water Consultant position. He stated further

that he wanted to make sure that the Board would stress that the individual's qualifications included being unbiased, unassociated, and unaffiliated with anybody within Granville County politics, committees and/or subcommittees, or friends of friends. He stated that he really hoped the Board would stretch to reach outside the box of someone who does not even know where Granville County is on a map so that they could receive the best results for those who are worried about their water situation. He said that he is still waiting for a reply email from individuals that he sent an email in regards to where he could find meeting minutes and notes where the subcommittee had conversations with the experts that they spoke with so that the public could better understand what conversations were had, what questions were asked, and what the answers were so that they could make decisions for themselves.

Casey Cook, 919-B Goshen Street, Oxford, NC, stated that she was there to ask the Board to pay officers in the Sheriff's Department better and to hire more of them. She stated that as of this meeting, Sheriff Hardy informed her that the county is 12 officers down and it will continue to grow if the county does not allocate more funding to pay officers better and to attract a better quality of candidates to be officers. She continued that money can be moved around in budgets and there is no reason why it cannot be moved in this case.

BOARD APPROVED LATE APPLICATION – DISABLED VETERANS
VIRGIL DOUGLAS

Chairman Cozart stated that the next item on the agenda was a late Application for a Disabled Veteran Virgil Douglas. He stated that according to the N.C.G.S. 105-282.1(a)(1), upon showing of good cause by the applicant for failure to make a timely application, an application for exemption or exclusion filed after the close of the listing period may be approved by the Board of County Commissioners. This subsection applies only to property taxes levied by the county or municipality in the calendar year in which the untimely application is filed. He stated further that they had an application for such a request and a recommendation from the Tax Administrator requesting that the Board approve the late application for 2022. He then asked for a motion to approve the recommendation.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Russ May, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2022 late application for Virgil Douglas for Disabled Veterans.

BOARD APPROVED LATE APPLICATION – DISABLED VETERANS
WILLIAM WHITE, JR.

Chairman Cozart stated that the next item was a late Application for Disabled Veteran William White, Jr. He stated that this item was very similar to the previous request and that this was also recommended for approval by Tax Administrator Griffin. He then asked for the pleasure of the Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2022 late application for William White, Jr. for Disabled Veterans.

BOARD APPROVED LATE APPLICATION – DISABLED VETERANS
ERVIN POWERS

Chairman Cozart stated that the Board was presented another late application with the same language with yet another recommendation to approve by Tax Administrator Griffin.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2022 late application for Ervin Powers for Disabled Veterans.

Commissioner May stated for clarification of the Board, that they had met with the Tax Office along with Veterans Services to ensure that in future interactions with our Veterans who run across similar activity, they be escorted to the Veterans Service Office and provided the assistance they need. Therefore, that is already in place, and he is confident that the Veterans Service Office will ensure that Veterans are receiving the services they need. He continued that Veterans Services will also be moving some of its operations to the southern end of the county. He continued that it is a work in progress and that Granville County has an outstanding Veterans Service office and that both personnel and the officers are top-notch employees and there will be a vast improvement in those services and to the Veterans who have earned these benefits and services.

BOARD APPROVED REMOTE CONTROL LIGHTING FOR GAP BALL
FIELDS

Chairman Cozart noted that the purpose of this item is to approve the purchase and installation of remote-controlled lights for the Granville Athletic Park Phase I baseball fields.

He continued that GAP Phase I baseball fields are utilized by high schools and middle schools beginning in February each year and require the usage of field lights due to it still getting dark around 5:30 p.m. Tournaments which run from February through November also

require lighting. To accommodate their play, park staff have been required to be on-site to turn the field lights on/off which often keeps them as late as 10:30 p.m. during the week and working 12-hour shifts on weekends. Chairman Cozart stated that there is a recommendation from the Parks & Grounds Maintenance Manager to approve the proposal from Tommy Lawrence Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount \$20,184 for materials and labor to install remote-controlled lighting at GAP Phase I baseball fields. He then asked if County Manager Logan would like to make any additional comments concerning this item.

County Manager Logan stated that he did not have any comments other than the fact that funding was budgeted in this current year's budget. He continued that the long-term goal for this is for staff to not have to come out to work 12-hour shifts to cut the lights on and off. At that point, they could simply pull up an application on a computer or phone and activate the system which would in essence be a savings to the county.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of remote-controlled lighting for the GAP Phase I baseball field from Tommy Lawrence Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$20,184 for materials and labor to install from the current budget.

BOARD APPROVED AGREEMENT WITH ePLUS, INC. FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF COURTS eCOURTS CRAVE PROJECT

Chairman Cozart stated that the next item was to consider approving the expenditure and entering into an agreement with ePlus, Inc. to provide cabling services in the Courthouse for the eCourts "Courtroom Audio Visual Experience" (CRAVE) project. He noted that the NC Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) is implementing remote court capabilities across the state under a project known as CRAVE. The AOC will provide necessary equipment including large screen monitors, cameras, and mounting accessories, but due to the cabling becoming an integrated part of the local infrastructure following installation, requires that the local government provide the cost of cabling, with the respective courtrooms. The County Manager recommended entering into an agreement with ePlus, Inc., the AOC's chosen contractor, to provide cabling services for the Granville County Superior and District courtrooms at an estimated cost of up to \$20,000. Chairman Cozart noted that the Memorandum of Agreement was included in the Board's agenda packet and asked for a motion from the Board.

Commissioner Smith made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner May. When Chairman Cozart called for comments or questions, Commissioner May added that this was part of the Board's responsibilities to fund some of the court's services as they provide to the County. Therefore, he stated, this will allow them to be able to digitize the courtroom and make it more current to what the expectations of the public would be for courtroom presentation, presentation of evidence, photographic evidence, etc., which he believes is essential this day and time.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Russ May, and unanimously carried, the Board approved entering into an agreement with ePlus, Inc. to provide cabling services for the Granville County Superior and District courtrooms at an estimated cost of up to \$20,000.

BOARD APPROVED SERVER INFRASTRUCTURE REFRESH PURCHASE

Chairman Cozart stated that the purpose of this item was to consider the purchase of computer server infrastructure replacements for both Granville County's primary and backup locations to maximize cybersecurity and remain in compliance with Granville County's Information Technology (IT) Policy. He noted that Granville County utilizes two virtual server clusters as its primary and secondary data infrastructure. One server cluster is located in Oxford and a secondary cluster is located in Wilton and each cluster consists of six Dell PowerEdge servers. The primary and secondary clusters were deployed in early 2016 and serve each county department with their daily functions. Chairman Cozart then asked Chris Brame, IT Director, if he had anything to add to this request.

IT Director Brame stated that this is a complete overhaul of the entire server infrastructure at both locations. This will go into the Law Enforcement Center and will bring Granville County current as of this year, as the previous servers were purchased back in 2015 so it is highly needed. He then asked if the Board had any questions regarding this request.

Chairman Cozart thanked Mr. Brame and asked if there was a motion to approve.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved computer server infrastructure replacements for a total one-time cost of \$591,500.00 for hardware replacement that includes \$31,515.00 for professional services after the SHI Statement of Work is reviewed by the County Attorney.

BOARD HOLDS ACTION ON CONTRACT WITH APPLE ROCK FOR BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Chairman Cozart stated that the purpose was to contract with Apple Rock to deliver, install, dismantle, and pick up/return floor decals, stanchions, and acrylic barriers to storage. He then recognized County Manager Doug Logan for comments.

County Manager Doug Logan stated that during the Coronavirus outbreak and its peak, processes had been implemented to provide isolation and separation to make voting the safest environment possible. Within that time, the Board of Elections contracted with Apple Rock to provide the individual barriers for the registration area and the acrylic barriers as well as the individual voting booths so that individuals would have a sufficient distance from others. He continued that the funding for the contract was included in this year's budget even though the bulk of the pandemic has winded down; however, we are still experiencing a few numbers of the Coronavirus and other infectious diseases. He stated further that the Board of Elections has requested to reactivate that contract again for this general election and would reevaluate it for next year.

Chairman Cozart stated that there is a recommendation to approve this request and the estimated cost as noted in the Board's packet is \$26,190.63. He then asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner May asked if the provisions for isolation were still required by the State Board of Elections.

County Manager Logan stated that he did not know if that was still a requirement by the State BOE. He stated that he did not believe that it was at this point, but that Granville County's BOE has strongly recommended going forward with it for at least one more year.

Commissioner May asked County Attorney Jim Wrenn if he knew if it was still a state requirement.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that he did not know but would try to get an answer before the end of the meeting.

Chairman Cozart asked if the Board members wanted to act on this request now or hold off until later.

Commissioner May stated that he would like to know if there is a requirement and that he is all about safety as most of the workers at the polls are elderly and, obviously, that is a concern, but he would like to know if that directive is coming from the State Board of Elections

and if we are up to date with current requirements. He questioned that if they were to take on any requirements, would the state fund a portion of it or would Granville County be required to fund it in its entirety?

Commissioner Gooch questioned that since they were so close to elections, would the Board have time to table this matter?

Chairman Cozart stated that he was hoping that they could come back to this request before the meeting ended. He said that if Attorney Wrenn could receive the information needed, the Board could revisit this matter later in the meeting.

BOARD APPROVED THREE VEHICLES FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Chairman Cozart recognized Sheriff John Hardy to come forth and share his request.

Sheriff Hardy stated this was a continued request to refurbish their aging fleet and that they were able to find some additional new vehicles through their source in Clinton, North Carolina and another source in Raleigh, North Carolina. He stated that basically, it would be the purchase of one (1) additional new Dodge Durango and two (2) Chevrolet Tahoes to replace the fleet that is aging as well as purchasing one more vehicle for the undercover narcotics unit. He stated that that was an extension of the last request that the Board had approved for the \$100,000 cap. He stated that he was able to find one more vehicle to fill in the extra.

Chairman Cozart stated that the previous purchases did not reach the \$100,000 cap so they had to come back and get permission for the third vehicle. He then asked if there were any questions for Sheriff Hardy. Chairman Cozart noted further that the Sheriff was recommending the purchase of one (1) 2023 Dodge Durango and two (2) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoes from Performance Automotive and Capital Chevrolet under the state contract pricing for a total price of \$127,882.48.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board approved purchasing one (1) 2023 Dodge Durango from Performance Automotive and two (2) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoes from Capital Chevrolet under the state contract pricing for a total price of \$127,882.48 from the current budget.

BOARD APPROVED ONE UNDERCOVER VEHICLE FOR NARCOTICS UNIT

Chairman Cozart stated that the purpose of this item was to consider the purchase of one (1) vehicle for the Granville County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit. He then asked Sheriff Hardy if he had any comments regarding this request.

Sheriff Hardy stated that the purchase of this third vehicle would round out the \$100,000 cap that was previously set. He stated that they had purchased two of the vehicles that they had mentioned in the last meeting, and he was coming again to request the purchase of this third vehicle which would be within the \$100,000 cap.

Commissioner Smith asked if this would be using the drug asset forfeiture fund and not Granville County tax dollars.

Sheriff Hardy responded that that was correct.

Chairman Cozart noted the recommendation from Sheriff Hardy and asked for a motion to approve.

Upon a motion by David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Russ May, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of one undercover vehicle from Oxford Car and Truck in the amount of up to \$17,888.00 utilizing U.S. Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture funds in support of the Narcotics Unit.

BOARD TABLED DETENTION CENTER BODY SCANNER PURCHASE

Chairman Cozart stated that the purpose was to consider the purchase of a full-body scanner for the Detention Center. He then recognized Sheriff Hardy for the details of this request.

Sheriff Hardy stated that the Sheriff's Office would like to request that the purchase of a full body scanner be approved as a Capital Fund Project utilizing the American Rescue Plan funds that had been identified by County Manager Logan. He stated further that he believed that purchasing a scanning device such as the Tek 84 device (specifications were included in the agenda packet), should be an integral part of the Detention Center's security platform much in the same way other security systems, such as surveillance cameras, security doors, and inmate communications systems are deployed. He stated further that the old ways of searching inmates as part of security screening is antiquated if not kept up with the techniques employed by arrestees to introduce contraband to Granville County's Detention facilities. He continued that traditional search techniques have also become more dangerous with the rise of Covid 19 and other contagious diseases. Sheriff Hardy stated that recently the Detention Center was able to intercept incoming contraband from three (3) inmates that would not have been detectable without the use of a scanning device such as the Tek 84. He stated that just the mere mention of the device to arrestees caused one of them to voluntarily disclose hidden contraband

to the Detention Center staff, and that is a testimony to the effectiveness of this device. He stated further that without a scanning device such as the Tek 84, they would have to send arrestees to the hospital to be scanned, incurring a cost of over \$1,000 per scan. He continued that it should be a part of the actual structural part of the Detention Center itself. Sheriff Hardy stated that he would be happy to answer any questions from the Board.

Commissioner May asked if there were any inquiries made with the money laundering asset recovery section of DOJ MLARS (Department of Justice Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section) to ascertain whether this would be allowable spending under the asset forfeiture program.

Sheriff Hardy stated that he had Rob Bailess to check into it and it looks like Granville County does have to make a special application through the MLARS prior to purchasing since it may actually be considered a structural part of the jail.

Commissioner May then asked how long it would take to implement that as he understood from Finance Director McNally that Granville County has a sizeable amount of asset forfeiture funds.

Sheriff Hardy stated that he did not know exactly how long it would take but that he knew that there is an extra step, however, he did not believe it would be an egregious amount of time.

Commissioner May stated that he wholeheartedly believes that Granville County needs this device, but he also believed that if there is funding available with the Asset Forfeiture Plan equitable sharing in which was brought about through drug and narcotics seizures, and that this would be an appropriate use of those funds to do that. However, he noted that he did not want there to be any misconception by Sheriff Hardy or his staff because he wholeheartedly supports the device. He said he does see where it would potentially be capital in means, but he also believes that by the definition under equitable sharing guidelines, it provides that caveat and, therefore, he would recommend to the Board that if they could, have the Sheriff check with MLARS and see if it would meet the criteria. If it did, we could save our taxpayers about \$200,000 and that would be his recommendation. However, he wanted the Board to be clear that he truly believed that this is an asset that the county does need, and he believes that the Sheriff has done a very good job at trying to get things moving in the right direction and it is the approach the Board needs to take.

Sheriff Hardy stated that as far as the Asset Forfeiture Funds, he believed that those funds should be used more for individual law enforcement equipment for the officer themselves. He continued that what the office had planned for that money is to purchase items such as enhanced weapon platforms and surveillance equipment for the Special Response Team to include pole cameras, robotic cameras, ballistic plates to supplement soft body armor for all enforcement personnel, enhance surveillance equipment to include additional drones, ballistic helmets, purchase of additional training equipment, etc. He just believes that that sort of equipment is what the Asset Forfeiture Funds should be used for and that the body scanner should be considered a capital improvement.

Commissioner May stated that it is actually mentioned in the guidelines that public safety and/or detention, and he does not disagree with him, that all those things are of value and he would like to have seen them ordered a long time ago, but that we are at the point now where, in all fairness, they have close to \$400,000 in Asset Forfeiture Funding. He stated further that it would be nice if they could get moving in all directions to be able to get these things accomplished. He continued that he is very supportive of the Sheriff and law enforcement operations, but where we utilize our tax dollars to seize narcotics and we conduct interdiction, when appropriate, we need to reapply those funds as expeditiously as possible back into the community so the impact can be seen as soon as possible. He noted that is just his opinion as the Board can make whatever decision they would like. He then asked Sheriff Hardy if he knew what it would cost to get all the tactical items he had mentioned earlier.

Sheriff Hardy stated that he believed you could go through \$200,000 very easily if you purchase the equipment and that was only a short list. He stated further that he felt that they needed to purchase as much equipment as they can. However, he felt like the scanner is a part of the jail just like the HVAC unit is part of the jail. The scanner should be a part of the jail itself and he feels it should be a capital project. He continued that when you look at the revenue of holding federal inmates which we are proposedly working toward that direction—getting staffing right—they have had a staffing hiring boom (10 officers started last week) and if you get to the point where you start to bring in those federal inmates and charging and getting that revenue back, he believed that this would pay for itself pretty quickly.

Commissioner May stated that he would leave it to the Board's discretion to decide whether they wanted to see how quickly this could be done or table this proposal or move forward with what Sheriff Hardy has proposed.

Commissioner Smith asked the County Manager or County Attorney if they had an opinion or comment on this recommendation.

County Manager Logan stated that typically, as the Sheriff had mentioned, the Asset Forfeiture Fund, tends to be used more for individual personal choices or equipment that would be rapidly phased out or towards end of life. He stated that the funding source does require that any equipment purchased with those funds, at end of life cannot be sold to auction, but that the funds would have to be returned to that funding stream. He stated further that that is the main reason for not normally using that to purchase capital equipment of this nature. However, it is certainly not out of the realm of possibility to be used should it be the Board's discretion to move forward with this request.

Commissioner Karan stated it was his understanding that there are no longer any ARPA (American Rescue Plan) funds remaining and asked if that was correct or not.

County Manager Logan stated that he would need to default to the Finance Director to provide clarification and stated that the first initial part of that was funding in the amount of \$10 million which was used for supplanted funding toward salaries within the county to make up for a lot of the difference in the lost work and lost revenues we incurred.

Finance Director Steve McNally stated that the revenue replacement allows \$10 million to be spent on operational expenses and they were going to target those expenditures for salaries. He stated further that in effect freezes up \$10 million out of the fund balance to be spent as you see fit and recall during the budget process, that they came up with some revenue enhancement expenditures and there was about \$3 million of revenue enhancement expenditures that they were going to target. He continued that a good portion of that was going to EMS for the purchase of ambulances and schools and it left roughly \$6 or \$7 million available to be spent as you see fit.

Commissioner Karan questioned if they are ARPA funds anymore. Commissioner Gooch asked for clarification as if the funds are in the general fund, they are no longer ARPA funds.

Finance Director McNally continued that the \$10 million revenue replacement of ARPA funds will be spent on general fund salaries; therefore, that freezes up \$10 million in the fund balance to be spent as you see fit. It is no longer ARPA funding but noted that we have to report how we are spending those ARPA funds but in spending those ARPA funds on salaries, that in effect gives you \$10 million more in your fund balance that you can spend as you see fit. Mr. McNally stated long story short, it gives you an additional \$10 million to spend in your general fund. He stated that those additional ARPA funds are being spent on salaries and the reason why it is being done that way is because the reporting for those is much simpler than taking those ARPA funds and spending them on capital items which the reporting of the procurement is very onerous, very administratively burdensome.

Commissioner Karan stated that that was exactly to his point that if the reporting is arduous and there is a lot of extra hoops you must jump through, why are we putting a big flag on this and calling it ARPA funds?

Mr. McNally said you could just refer to them as additional funds that are freed up in the general fund.

Chairman Cozart stated that the bottom line is that we were able to supplant those and the money that we had that we called ARPA funds, we targeted those for salaries to make it easy for reporting. He stated further that what we have now is basically some freed-up funds and the question becomes the request from Sheriff Hardy recommending we use up some of the freed-up funds to make this purchase for the scanner.

Commissioner May stated that he was withdrawing his previous motion and make the following motion that Sheriff Hardy come back to the next Board meeting with recommendations on his tactical checklist along with this item as a priority so that the Board can make the determination on which funds, they should come out of so that the Board can get resolved and actually get both accomplished in one meeting.

Commissioner Hinman stated that she was concerned that if the scanner is not ordered soon, it could be back ordered and take awhile to get it in place, noting that she is waiting for a compactor for six months and has not received it.

Commissioner May asked Sheriff Hardy if he was able to determine if he was to purchase the scanner today, how long it would take to receive it.

Sheriff Hardy stated that it would take several weeks for it to be delivered but that he could contact the representative and get a specific time, however, it would take a while for delivery and there has to be training involved, warranty information, and an additional fee that you have pay annually for maintenance, but that cost is much less than the machine itself.

Commissioner May stated that he was going to keep the motion on the floor because he did not feel that two weeks would make or break them in regard to the criteria that has been given and it will also give the Sheriff an opportunity to have the consultant brief the Board in regard to where they are as well as the Detention Center. Therefore, he restated his motion that the Board give Sheriff Hardy the opportunity to come back with two proposals for the next meeting where the Board will decide at that time where to apply equitable funding/asset forfeiture and/or fund balance. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner David T. Smith, and unanimously carried, the Board requested that the body scanner purchase be brought back to the Board after evaluation of using the asset forfeiture funds or fund balance.

Chairman Cozart stated to Sheriff Hardy that he was excited to hear the comment about the 10 new Detention Officers and he stated to Casey Cook, who spoke at public comments, that the Board was also very happy to hear this and they knew that on the horizon there would need to be something done for our road deputies. He thanked her for coming and stated that she did well on her first presentation to the Board.

Commissioner May asked Sheriff Hardy how many applicants he currently had waiting to be hired as deputies and about School Resource Officers.

Sheriff Hardy stated that they had interviewed five (5) people, one that is already certified, and he had four (4) more that they were trying to get through the process. He stated further that they had one vacancy in the School Resource Officer allocation.

Commissioner May thanked him for everything he does.

Commissioner Gooch asked how the job fair went for the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Hardy stated that they only had one applicant from the job fair and they had discussed that, in the future, they might try to hold a job fair at the Community College for a better volume of people coming and looking for jobs in that area. He stated further that he appreciated the help of Assistant County Manager Weichel and Keegan Rapp for coming out and helping with the job fair as well.

Chairman Cozart thanked Sheriff Hardy for his leadership and dedication.

PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Commissioner Jay said that he would like to recognize Emma Frances Harris with a proclamation for her 90th birthday and the Board consented. He also announced that Johnsie Cunningham's father passed away earlier that morning. He was 98 years old.

Chairman Cozart thanked Commissioner Jay for informing the Board of Mr. Cunningham's passing. He then asked Commissioner May if he had anything to share.

Commissioner May asked Chairman Cozart if he would briefly discuss the meeting that he chaired the previous week on public education and the general parameters and concerns that the National Association of County Commissioners had in regard to school funding and capital.

Chairman Cozart stated that he would share that information with the Board at the Presentations by Board Members.

BOARD APPOINTED KATHY KEITH (DISTRICT 4) TO THE ADULT CARE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Kathy Keith (District 4) to fill the current vacancy on the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

BOARD APPOINTED JOHN FRANK (DISTRICT 6) TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chairman Cozart confirmed that Commissioner Timothy Karan also had a recommendation for the Granville County Board of Adjustment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed John Frank (District 6) to the Granville County Board of Adjustment.

BOARD TABLED THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR GROUNDWATER CONSULTANT

County Manager Logan stated that at its regular meeting on August 8, 2022, the Board heard a presentation and recommendations from the Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee regarding public concerns over groundwater supplies in southern Granville County. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Board directed the Manager to review the information provided during the presentation and report back with recommendations for future actions. He continued that after several internal meetings with staff as well as with Environmental Affairs Committee members and some members of the public, it has become

obvious that County staff and the Environmental Affairs Committee that we have readily available to us, do not have the unbiased expertise to really evaluate whether there is a problem before we start taking proactive and reactive or even regulatory matters regarding this going forward. He stated further that it was requested that the County Manager receive authorization from the Board to create a request for qualifications so that they could seek a qualified outside firm to give the Board an unbiased report going forward, and they would be able to put that together in conjunction with members of the Board as well as members of the Environmental Affairs Committee and relative staff.

Commissioner Gooch asked that once you get the request for qualifications back, and the Board is hoping that he is able to get several, would that be followed up with a request for proposal?

County Manager Logan stated that yes, that was the plan.

Commissioner Karan stated that he was aware that the Planning Board was getting a lot of participation at their meetings; especially with wells and groundwater and he was wondering if the County Attorney could give an overview of some of the general statutes and whose responsibility it is and any other information he would like to share about North Carolina General Statute 87-83, North Carolina Well Construction Act.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that if memory served him correctly, that if there are over 24 connections to a well, that makes it a community well and it is regulated by the state entirely and small wells for personal use are regulated locally. He said he would look up the information on his computer.

Commissioner Karan said he had lots of opportunities to learn about other agencies and what roles they play in groundwater. He said he had the opportunity to speak with an expert with the USGS (United States Geological Survey) Dominick Antolino that wrote a recent assessment of well yield dominant fractures and groundwater recharge rates in Wake County and said there is a lot of information out there, but as County Manager Logan said none of us are experts in that field and asked the County Attorney to weigh in on the matter. He said there is information on the UNC Coates Cannon blog with common misconceptions around wells and water rights in North Carolina.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that community water systems serve 15 or more service connections or regulate services for 25 or more individuals. He noted that it is a public water system regulated by the State of North Carolina and there are no local regulations of those, and we would be preemptive from regulating a public water system.

Commissioner May said if a developer puts in a community well then the local Health Department will do the basic things, and asked if there is anything we can do as a county in regards to this.

County Attorney Wrenn stated he understands that with a public water system, there is no local regulation as they are regulated by the State of North Carolina.

Commissioner Karan stated that one of the interesting takeaways he had with a Dominick Antolino, Representative from USGS, was that when you have a sentinel event in a geographic location that making extrapolations or interpretations from that event and its entire report therewithin, it is hard to extrapolate those using this evidence in another location when you are not in the same time or location and not a fair assessment. He continued that there is a plethora of data out there and that in Wake County alone, the average daily usage of groundwater systems is 16 million gallons a day serving 140,000 people on community wells and 60,000 people on individual wells so it is kind of not a Granville County thing that is for sure.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that it was his understanding that this is the purpose of the RFQ to determine someone with those qualifications to judge a specific situation in Granville County and provide advice and input into the problems that exist, if any.

Commissioner Karan stated that when you go up for RFQ "Request for Qualifications," this is going to be broadcasted far and wide, and it was not going to be something that the Butner-Creedmoor News (no offense), but it is not going to use that as our paper of general circulation nor the Oxford Ledger but that would be broadcasted throughout the county-wide system of the entire state as well as Virginia.

County Manager Logan stated that it was certainly his intention to make sure that they conduct a broad search to find the most qualified agency that would be able to give the Board accurate and unbiased information.

Commissioner May stated that he had heard this before and he keeps hearing it and it is disturbing that somehow, as Commissioners, the Board is putting its finger on the pulse and

providing unbiased or biased decisions. Therefore, what he wanted to know was if the Board is even involved in that process and to his knowledge and by the policy, they are not involved in the procurement process.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that the final recommendation would typically be brought back to the Board for approval and that it was typically a staff-driven selection process.

County Manager Logan stated that, again, it is their intention to develop the series of qualifications or questions that the Board would need for a suitable consultant to reply to so that the Board could pick from those respondents.

Commissioner May asked if they had anyone on the Board that is a professional in the water or groundwater service or if anyone has a family member that is involved in the study of groundwater service.

Board members responded that they do not have family members involved in such a study.

Commissioner Karan stated that he had attempted to join some social media-type groups such as South Granville Water and Granville Green to try and glean from his constituents, friends, and neighbors but they are closed groups, and he is not welcome. Therefore, he wanted to make sure that going forward, their RFQ process is absolutely clean and has no cloud of any type of impropriety or anything as was mentioned earlier.

Commissioner May also asked the County Manager if he had been provided any minutes yet from the sub-committee.

County Manager Logan stated that he had received, via email, several varying formats and they have not been formalized, but he would be providing those as soon as possible. He continued that at no point had anything been non-transparent.

Commissioner May also questioned if the sub-committee was made up of citizens of this county who have a vested interest in the betterment of this county.

County Manager Logan responded yes since they are volunteers and serve in that capacity.

Chairman Cozart asked if there was a motion in this regard.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Russ May and unanimously carried, the Board approved authorizing the County Manager and staff to create and publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for groundwater consulting services.

BOARD APPROVED INCREASED HOURS FOR PART-TIME PERSONNEL

County Manager Logan noted that he had three personnel items that needed to be added to the agenda. The first item was a request to increase the hours of an existing part-time employee currently assigned to assist the Clerk to the Board with the existing backlog of minutes from past Board meetings. Currently, that position is working approximately 10 hours per week and has been limited by the number of hours available. He continued that he would like to authorize that that position be allowed up to 29 hours per week with an end date of December 31, 2022, as that would be adequate time to get that backlog of minutes caught back up.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved authorizing up to 29 hours a week for a temporary part-time worker until December 2022 to catch up on the backlog of meeting minutes.

BOARD APPROVED REINSTATING THE DEPUTY CLERK POSITION

County Manager Logan stated that the second item was a request to reinstate the Deputy Clerk position. He explained that the position was not funded in the current year based upon the move to Belle Street and that he looked at this from a continuity perspective. He said that the current clerk, Mrs. Weary, though she has not made an announcement certainly is going to be eligible for retirement at some point within the near future and they would like to reinstate that position beginning on January 16, 2023. He continued that the position would cross-train with Mrs. Weary to receive the certification as a clerk as well as move forward in that position. He requested hiring the new position at pay grade 65 based upon the qualifications commensurate with experience.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved reinstating the Deputy Clerk position effective January 16, 2023 at a pay grade of 65.

BOARD APPROVED RECLASSIFYING THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ASSISTANT TO A SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

County Manager Logan stated that the third request was for the Development Services department. He explained that the administrative assistants for Building Inspections and Planning and Zoning have announced that they will be separating from Granville County. One

will be retiring at the end of December after 30 years of service and the other announced that she will be separating from the county at the end of December. He stated further that the Development Services Director had requested to elevate one of the positions to more of the supervisory role of Senior Administrative Support Assistant. Therefore, authorization from the Board is needed to move that position from a Grade 65 to a Grade 67. He continued that that position will also allow the Department Director to continue to be as active as he is with all the other construction projects that the county is currently involved in and for that position to be able to take office manager duties within that Department.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved reclassifying the Administrative Assistant position, pay grade 65, to a Senior Administrative Assistant position, pay grade 67, in Development Services.

DURING COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, BOARD APPROVED OVERTON POND USE AGREEMENT FOR THE GRANVILLE ATHLETIC PARK

County Attorney Wrenn stated that the first item in his report was an agreement with Mr. Benny Overton for irrigation water for the Granville Athletic Park (GAP). He stated that this is an extension of the existing agreement that has been in place since 2007. The agreement includes an annual payment indexed at 3% a year starting at \$4,800 and renewed for consecutive periods of two years each unless terminated.

Commissioner Smith asked if that was the sole water supply for the GAP as far as irrigation was concerned.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that there are two ponds and he believed that Mr. Overton's siblings have another pond that the County uses and then this one, so those two ponds combined are the sole ones to his knowledge. He was not aware of there being any other wells for that purpose and County Manager Logan agreed.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement and Easement to the Overton Pond Agreement dated November 5, 2007 between Granville County and Benny E. and Vivian Overton for the Granville Athletic Park for an additional two years beginning November 1, 2022 in the amount of \$4,800 annually with an increase of 3% annually and for additional two terms per agreement terms.

DURING COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, BOARD APPROVED PAYTEL CONTRACT FOR DETENTION CENTER

County Attorney Wrenn stated that this item had come before the Board several months ago and when they examined the contract, it had been pieced together starting back from the 1990s and needed some tangible revisions. He continued that they had been in discussions with the company, and they had received the contract back. One matter that he and County Manager Logan thought was necessary to bring back before the Board was an early termination penalty rather than the contract running for an extended period of time. He said they felt that it was important that if conditions changed to be able to terminate the contract early. He stated further that the company has requested a termination penalty that would charge the cost of the equipment which they have priced at \$107,200 at a declining amount per month of \$2,144, so if we had to terminate for any reason, for convenience, the County would have to pay an early termination fee.

Commissioner May asked for clarity that this was for the inmate telephone system.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that it will be both their telephone system, their entertainment system, and their mail system. So instead of bringing mail into the jail to keep inmates from smuggling in something with their mail, this would have the ability for staff to scan in their mail so that they could read it on the computer and thus increase the security in the jail.

Commissioner May stated that the inmates would be paying for it themselves. He then asked Sheriff Hardy if he could think of any reason why they should not proceed with this request.

Sheriff Hardy stated that he believed that it was a good system and that it keeps the mail from coming in through the facility and it is a great security measure.

Commissioner Smith stated that Paytel has been serving the county's Detention Center for about 30 years.

County Attorney Wrenn reiterated that there was not anything wrong but that the contract dated back about 30 years and so it was an opportunity to clean up the contract and modernize it and address some of these issues to bring it up to the current standard.

Commissioner Jay asked if the inmates would be using iPads and if it could be used as a weapon.

Sheriff Hardy stated that with the Paytel System, the inmates would not be able to get on the internet and the way the iPad is designed, it will have a rubber coating on the outside and, so far, they have not experienced any problems with them trying to use them as weapons.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Russ May, and unanimously carried, the Board authorizing the County Manager and County Attorney to execute an updated Paytel Contract with the addition of an early termination penalty for the Detention Center.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – OPIOID LITIGATION UPDATE

County Attorney Wrenn stated that Granville County had received communication from the consortium representing the counties about additional opioid lawsuits and he believed that the consortium representing the counties has recommended that Granville County join the lawsuits. He stated that previously, the attorney representing Granville County had been allowed to add the county as the main plaintiff in a new lawsuit and now they were asking to opt into them directly. So, we have one lawsuit against the national accounting firm and another one as he recalls against another drug manufacturer, and they are asking for the Commissioners' approval to join those lawsuits. County Attorney Wrenn stated further that if the Board liked, he could provide them with more detail about that process, but again, this would be furthering the ongoing efforts related to those lawsuits.

Commissioner Hinman asked if Granville County's other attorneys were still representing the county in these matters, or would this mean that County Attorney Wrenn would.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that he was not representing the county in this effort as the other attorneys were as this was a national effort. He said that he was just managing the paper flow.

Commissioner Karan asked if the payment issue had been resolved on the first go round concerning the 100 counties signing onto the litigation that had already got in consensus with.

County Attorney Wrenn responded that it was his understanding that there was an agreement that everyone was in consensus with. He stated that he would continue to look for the answer to Commissioner Karan's question and would bring it back up later in the evening.

Chairman Cozart stated that they would move to the next item on the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

Commissioner Hinman stated that a couple of meetings ago, she made a motion that they have a youth leadership group which would involve placing youth on appropriate committees in the county. She stated that a young man by the name of Jermaine Puryear was one of the youth that spoke about the Board doing that. She continued that this young man was like a ball of fire. He has already completed his applications, he has the idea of what, where, and how to begin and he knows how to get more than just the elite kids in school to be involved on these committees. She stated a retreat has already been scheduled for these young people. She told the Board members to be prepared on each committee because they would soon have some youth on them and that she did not believe that they were going to be slackers. She believed that these young people were really going to be involved.

Commissioner May asked Jason Falls, Environmental Programs Director, to step down for a minute. He asked Mr. Falls to update the Board about the closing of the Wilton Convenience.

Mr. Falls stated that they had worked in the last couple of weeks to advertise the closure of the Wilton Convenient site beginning on October 10th through October 17th and that it would reopen on the 17th. He stated that the reason for the closure was for minor driveway repairs as well as for some cleanup inside the site to expand some of the areas within the site.

Commissioner May stated that, in essence, what they were doing is broadening the entrance and expanding the pad so that people can go through without having to back out, hopefully minimizing the traffic on the main highway. He continued that signs are currently up to make the community aware of the temporary location on Old 75 at the Butner location.

Mr. Falls stated further that there were also six other convenient sites across the county. He stated that they have handouts on site as well as maps if anyone needed directions to the other sites.

Commissioner May thanked Mr. Falls. He said that he had one more thing that was directed to the County Attorney which involved 160-D 107 of the Land Use Moratorium. He asked if there were any criteria that he had heard discussed at this Board concerning the water situation or the groundwater concerns that would warrant or meet the guidelines for that moratorium and asked if he could discuss that. He referenced 160-D 107, under Subsection (c) which states:

Absent an eminent threat to public health or safety; a developmental moratorium adopted pursuant to this section does not apply.

Commissioner May continued that the request had been made on more than one occasion before this Board or the Planning Board and he believed that it is important that people understand that the Board of Commissioners are not being dismissive of any of the concerns. That the Board is most concerned about it and that is why they are proceeding in the way that they are by educating themselves, the county, or anyone to learn more about this situation. He stated further that they just cannot arbitrarily make decisions that impact the county or people without having actual sound scientific data or information that they can support.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that 160D-107(a) says:

As provided in this section, local governments may adopt temporary moratorium on any development approval required by law except for the purpose of developing and adopting new or amended plans of development regulations governing residential uses.

He stated further that in the section that Commissioner May had quoted, “*discussing an eminent threat to public health or safety, so absent an eminent threat to public health or safety a development moratorium adopted pursuant to this section does not apply to any project for a valid building permit issued pursuant to G.S. 160D-1108 is outstanding to any project for special use permit has been accepted as complete in other projects for which development approvals or preliminary approvals have been given.*”

Therefore, he stated, moratoria are not available except under limited circumstances for residential development projects.

Commissioner May then asked County Attorney Wrenn if in his conversations with the Health Department or any other county officials, if he was aware of the situation in which they were failing to do or take appropriate action?

County Attorney Wrenn stated that he had heard of concerns, but that he had not heard of anything that constitutes an eminent threat to public health or safety. Again, that is what an expert can tell you but just a generalized fear or failure in the future, it does not in his opinion, constitute what would be required to support this.

Commissioner May then asked if this Board can arbitrarily go to someone and say, “Stop what you are doing until we can actually make a determination or until there is a valid public safety or imminent threat?”

County Attorney Wrenn stated that that was correct, and he believed that you would have to have something that a court would find to justify a characterization of an imminent threat to public health or safety.

Commissioner May asked if you would need a specified time after that with a remedy.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that that was his recollection; that it had to be something that could be dealt with within a reasonable period of time.

Commissioner May stated that he just wanted to make it clear to the Commissioners that they are aware of the situation, and they would obviously be considered very bad people if they were not concerned, but that they simply cannot make decisions based off reports and information that was interpreted by whomever. He continued that they need experts to determine that and that is why they have taken the approach that they have and that is why Commissioner Karan formed the subcommittee so that the Board could get this process moving so they could make determinations, but that until the determinations are made, the Board just cannot arbitrarily act.

Commissioner Karan stated that he was prepared to go on ad nauseum about his recent relearning of the general statutes, for instance, Article 7, Chapter 87 G6 that vests “all things matter into wells the Environmental Management Commission”, but that he would like to move the Commissioners’ comments to the front of the meeting because, apparently, some people that make the effort to come to the meeting, leave before they have the opportunity to hear from their Commissioners. Therefore, half of what he wanted to talk about was specifically towards some individuals who brought some concerns to him back in April and that on May 2nd this Board assigned a task to the Environmental Affairs Committee and they met on May 9th and formed a stakeholder’s group, unfortunately, not to the liking of some of the people who left the meeting earlier tonight.

Commissioner Karan said he would stop there and instead he shared that on October 4th at the BAP (Butner Athletic Park) is the National Night Out event. He noted that the East Coast Greenway Usability Study will be taking place at the same time so if anyone is interested in the East Coast Greenway and the fact that it actually goes through Granville County and would like to learn more about that, you can go to the BAP at 5:00 p.m. tomorrow. He noted that Planning staff including Senior Transportation Planner Justin Jorgensen will be on hand to talk about East Coast Greenways and the East Greenways Alliance. He continued that there

were lots of things happening the weekend including the Masonic Home for Children Homecoming and the Creedmoor Firemen's Day at 1:00 p.m. in Creedmoor on Saturday. He continued that there were lots of good things happening in the Fall which began with the Oxford Hot Sauce Festival and the Creedmoor Music Festival.

Commissioner Gooch thanked the Leadership Granville class for being at the meeting and thanked them for their participation. He also expressed his thanks to the Emergency Management staff for assisting during the recent storm and noted that the County had minimal damage and power outages.

Commissioner Jay reported to Jason Falls that the main gate at Oak Hill convenience site was broken. He also mentioned that Granville County's share of the Kerr-Tar Council of Government (COG) is \$162,000 for low-wealth income was announced today and anyone wanting to file an application for assistance to go by their office. He stated that he also appreciated all the Commissioners' support last Thursday evening.

Chairman Cozart stated that he would like an opportunity to get over and see the new KARTS building and apologized for not being able to attend the recent open house.

Commissioner Smith thanked the Board for attending the Nifty 90s event that was sponsored by the Granville County Senior Center. He reported that they had 54 attendees from age 90 to age 102. He said he believed everyone enjoyed the Elvis Impersonator and thanked the Board, Kathy May, and all the Senior Center Staff for putting on the event each year.

Chairman Cozart congratulated Commissioner Smith for being recognized at the recent Kerr-Tar COG banquet as Regional Star. He said that it was an honor well-deserved and that he has had the opportunity to watch Commissioner Smith's leadership for a long time in Granville County and he was just so happy to be there to share in that experience. He stated further that Commissioner Smith had given much service to Granville County and the Board is very grateful to him. He also noted that Commissioner Smith is only the 4th recipient of that award, and he is very proud to that they have had the opportunity to serve together.

Commissioner Smith thanked the Board and Administration for their support and stated that he was very surprised, and that he accepted it on behalf of everyone involved.

Commissioner Hinman congratulated Commissioner Jay for being appointed President of the Kerr-Tar COG Board.

Chairman Cozart stated that he was looking forward to attending the Masonic Home Homecoming Festival and noted that he attended the eighth grade on that campus, so it is a special place for him. He continued that it was his first opportunity to attend an integrated school on that campus and noted that they do a wonderful job with children. He continued that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners are ready to go through the Legislative goals process. He reminded Commissioners that the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference would be held on November 16 – 18, 2022, and he wanted to invite them to participate. He continued that he had an opportunity to serve as Chair of the Public Education Steering Committee and noted that it was a wonderful process. He stated that there was a lot of discussion about facilities because its local units of government facilities are the Board's responsibility. He stated further that the guiding principles that were adopted, one of which was taxing authority for local public education should be vested exclusively with Boards of County Commissioners. He continued that he wanted to share that because there has been some conversation about school boards having taxing authority, but one of the things that Commissioners have shared in this process, is that they believe very strongly that that authority needs to rest with County Boards of Commissioners. He stated further that the last item that was very dear to him was that early education is a critical component for students' success in North Carolina in the education system. He stated that they ended up adopting 16 goals of the 42 submitted, so the committee had done a great job. He then mentioned some of the goals including one to support legislation to continue enhancements of teacher allotments such as the arts as some local districts have had to cut those programs, so they did want to make sure that some of those programs were able to have funding. He mentioned the school calendar issue continues to come up every year — not being able to start school before August 25th unless you are connected with the community college or in some way have a special-type program. He also wanted to share that the Public Education Steering Committee asked that the Board support programs to help with learning loss due to Covid and children being at home. This process will continue so local boards will be able to bring additional goals even to the Legislative Conference and everything that he witnessed seemed to have matched something that this Board had talked about. He stated that he would have to admit that the State has made some good efforts to at least attempt to give support to local units and it will continue in the future. The whole issue of being able to provide security in our schools has moved to a higher

level of concern amongst a lot of people. He stated that he was thankful to have been a part of it and it was a learning process. He also thanked Vice-Chair Russ May for being on the call because some of the things that he found out about was that there is a lot of moving and shaking in the General Assembly in regard to school systems. He stated that he was extremely proud of the Board and what they have been able to do. He continued that he had asked Mr. Cummings about the percentage of the budget that Durham gave to public education and that it is about 33%. With that, he stated that he was so proud of his colleagues on this Board and the Granville County Superintendent has very proudly stated on many occasions that the Granville County Board of Commissioners gave us everything that we have asked for. He said it made him feel very good to hear her say that, and, obviously, we had some things in motion, but this Board has been very supportive. He stated further that he looked forward to this process continuing and asked if there were any comments or input and asked if they did, to please do not hesitate to let the Board know what they are.

Commissioner May stated that, currently, there is federal and state legislation, and we are waiting for the final guidelines to come down on both of those in regard to funding for SROs (School Resource Officers), either through the Department of Justice (DOJ) Cops Program or local funding out of recent legislation. He stated that the schools have been provided that information as well as the Board through both Senator Tillis' office and Representative Winslow's office.

Commissioner Hinman noted that it really felt good that people stayed for the entire meeting and not just the public comments section of the meeting. She stated that if people do not stay, they miss out on so much that happens, and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Chairman Cozart thanked everyone for their participation and turned it back over to County Attorney Wrenn for the matter he wished to share on the Opioid agenda item.

OPIOID LITIGATION UPDATE

County Attorney Wrenn read the opening paragraph of the letter which read as follows:

"On October 5, 2021, we sent you an email informing you that we would be filing complaints against McKinsey & Company for their marketing work for Purdue Pharma to increase sales of its drug Oxycodone. The email contained what we refer to as "negative consent language" indicating that if we do not hear from you to the contrary, we would eventually file a complaint on McKinsey on your behalf. We heard from some NC subdivisions who agreed with filings of the request for additional time to meet and discuss your request and a few indicated that they did not want the complaint filed on their

behalf. In light of the situation, we believe it is better practice to receive affirmative confirmation regarding your subdivision's desire to allow us to file these complaints."

County Attorney Wrenn said that is what they are requesting on behalf of the consortium that is representing the counties in the opioid litigation to file a complaint against McKinsey & Company for their marketing work for Purdue Pharma. He stated that he did not have an opinion on it and it seems to be what the attorneys representing the consortium are recommending and he would leave it to the Board to make their decision.

Chairman Cozart asked if the consortium was asking for any timeline on the matter.

County Attorney Wrenn responded October 17th.

Chairman Cozart asked for any comments and reiterated that they are calling it opt-in directly.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that instead of opting in, if you do not do anything, they are asking for the county's affirmative approval to allow them to file on the county's behalf.

Commissioner Gooch asked if the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners have signed off on this.

County Attorney Wrenn said that on the day he received the letter, he reached out to the attorney representing Granville County, Mr. Jake Daniel, and he had not heard back from him and to his knowledge, it is a consortium's recommendation that you do this but again, he did not have an opinion on the matter.

Chairman Cozart clarified that October 17th is the date of the next Board meeting. He then asked if there were any comments or objections.

Commissioner Gooch, Chair of the Opioid Advisory Committee, said he wanted to be sure that Attorney Daniel agrees with this and said he was okay with waiting until the October 17th Board of Commissioners' meeting to act on the matter.

County Attorney Wrenn stated that he was sure that if they got it back that night, if there was any reason the Board wanted to wait to hear a response, they would not hesitate to take a contingency fee.

Chairman Cozart stated that the Board would hold off on a decision until the October 17th meeting to see if the county had received a recommendation at that time.

BOARD APPROVED CONTRACT WITH APPLE ROCK FOR BOARD OF ELECTIONS

County Attorney Wrenn stated that the other issue that was on the agenda was the Board of Elections matter for the upcoming November general election. County Attorney Wrenn stated that he called Board of Elections Director Tonya Burnette and she stated that she is not aware of a legal requirement for the dividers or plexiglass shields. She stated that the State Board of Elections was strongly encouraging all poll workers to wear masks and social distance simply because all counties were currently in high transmission and do not have a backup plan if people got sick. Unfortunately, they needed people to come to work even if they had been exposed. Mrs. Burnette stated further that the state was trying to get additional funding for PPE, but that she was working with Jason Reavis, Emergency Management Director, to make sure that the county had secured a supply of PPE. She also indicated that there was no state or federal funding associated with this.

Chairman Cozart stated that the Board had the recommendation from Mrs. Burnette and asked for a motion from the Board.

When Commissioner Karan asked if the County owns the equipment, County Manager Logan stated that Apple Rock actually owns the equipment, and that approval was for rental, setup, and take down of their equipment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner David T. Smith, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved contracting with Apple Rock in the amount of service is \$26,190.63 to provide, install and dismantle the required ancillary equipment at polling places for the 2022 November election.

BOARD WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board went into closed session as allowed by G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) and (6) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Russ May, and unanimously carried, the Board returned to open session.

BOARD ADJOURNED

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

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