

GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 2, 2023
GRANVILLE EXPO AND CONVENTION CENTER
4185 US Highway 15 South, Oxford, North Carolina

PRESENT:

Chair Russ May
Vice Chair Timothy Karan
Commissioner Zelodis Jay
Commissioner Robert Williford
Commissioner Sue Hinman
Commissioner Tony W. Cozart
Commissioner Jimmy Gooch

County Manager Drew Cummings
Deputy County Manager Korena Weichel
County Attorney James C. Wrenn, Jr.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Russ May called the meeting to order. Vice Chair Timothy Karan had the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

A. Approved budget amendment #2 for fiscal year 2023-2024:

BUDGET AMENDMENT #2
October 2, 2023
Legal Document

Be it ordained, the FY 2023-2024 Annual Budget Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

GENERAL FUND			
Expenditures	Increase	Decrease	Total
General Government			\$ 28,330
IT	28,300		
Human Resources	7,230		
General Services		(7,200)	
Public Safety			\$ 70,206
Sheriff's Department		(281,667)	
Detention Center		(35,500)	
Emergency Management	283,873		
911 Operations	124,800		
Animal Control		(21,300)	
Community Services			\$ 78,238
4-H Best		(1,600)	
Unwrappin The Gift		(800)	
County Library System		(1,750)	
Recreation & Community Services	10,000		
Jonesland Park Operation	5,135		
Planning		(400)	
Inspections		(19,331)	
Construction Projects	89,384		
Economic Development		(2,400)	

Human Services		\$ (6,799)
Social Services		(9,200)
Oxford Senior Center	2,401	
Area Projects and Other Appropriations		\$ 489,638
Non-Departmental	91,000	
Fleet	398,638	

Total Expenditures \$ 659,613

Revenues

Interest & Operating Transfers In	19,500
Restricted and Intergovernmental	290,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	350,113

Total Revenues \$ 659,613

Revenues

Interest & Operating Transfers In	19,500
Restricted and Intergovernmental	290,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	350,113

Total Revenues \$ 659,613

LANDFILL FUND

Expenditures	Increase	Decrease	Total
Landfill Operations	70,500		

Total Expenditures	\$ 70,500
--------------------	-----------

Revenues

Appropriated Fund Balance	52,000
Transfers	18,500

Total Revenues	\$ 70,500
----------------	-----------

FY24 Budget Amendment #2

E-911 FUND

Expenditures	Increase	Decrease	Total
Software	15,000		
Implemental		(15,000)	

Total Expenditures \$ -

Revenues

Appropriated Fund Balance	0
---------------------------	---

Total Revenues	\$	-
----------------	----	---

FIRE SERVICES

Expenditures	Increase	Decrease	Total
Service Enhancement Funding		122,000	

Total Expenditures \$ 122,000

Revenues

Appropriated Fund Balance	122,000
---------------------------	---------

Total Revenues \$ 122,000

FY24 BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Detail [For Reference Only]

				Amendment	Balance after Amendment
General Government					
General Fund/Administration					
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	3839	896	Reimburse Grant Writer Creedmoor	\$40,000	\$40,000
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	(\$40,000)	\$4,502,236

Description: Recognize funds due from interlocal agreement with City of Creedmoor for shared grant writer position.

Public Safety

General Fund/Sheriff

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	4310	321	Telephone	(\$29,500)	\$88,620
10	4122	399	IT Connectivity	\$29,500	\$158,750

Description: Transfer funding of MiFi services from Sheriff Office to IT department.

Community Service

General Fund/Recreation

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	6120	610	Master Plan Development	\$10,000	\$10,000
----	------	-----	-------------------------	----------	----------

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$10,000	\$4,512,236
----	------	-----	---------------------------	----------	-------------

Description: Carry over funds for the remaining balance of McAdams Recreation Master Plan work contracted in FY 2023.

General Fund/Construction Projects

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	4330	605	Expo Center Generator - CBCG Grant	\$267,000	\$267,000
----	------	-----	------------------------------------	-----------	-----------

Revenues: Increase

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	3433	342	CBCG Grant - Expo Generator	\$250,000	\$250,000
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$17,000	\$4,529,236

Description: To recognize Emergency Management's CBCG grant for generator installation at the Expo Center and related engineering services (\$17,000).

FY24 Budget Amendment #2

Reference Detail Page 2

Inter-Functional				Amendment	Balance after Amendment
General Fund/Fleet					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	4122	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$1,200)	\$200
10	4260	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$7,200)	\$800
10	4310	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$208,600)	\$71,400
10	4320	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$35,500)	\$4,500
10	4330	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$10,400)	\$2,600
10	4350	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$15,400)	\$2,450
10	4380	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$16,800)	\$2,200
10	4390	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$2,700)	\$300
10	4910	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$400)	(\$20)
10	4920	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$2,400)	\$100
10	5300	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$9,200)	\$1,300
10	5831	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$1,600)	(\$39)
10	5835	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$800)	\$0
10	5860	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$600)	\$0
10	6110	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$800)	\$94
10	6130	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$11,700)	\$2,300
10	4310	353	R & M -Vehicle	(\$43,567)	\$36,433
10	4330	353	R & M -Vehicle	(\$890)	\$310
10	4350	353	R & M -Vehicle	(\$3,931)	\$69
10	4380	353	R & M -Vehicle	(\$4,500)	\$0
10	6110	353	R & M -Vehicle	(\$950)	\$0
10	8550	251	Gas Oil and Tires	\$325,300	\$325,300
10	8550	251	Gas Oil and Tires	\$18,500	\$18,500
10	8550	353	R & M -Vehicle	\$53,838	\$53,838
10	8550	353	R & M -Vehicle	\$1,000	\$1,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	3991	960	Transfer from Landfill Fund	\$19,500	\$19,500

Description: Reallocating balance of Gas, Oil, & Tires and Vehicle Repair & Maintenance budgets from user departments to the General Fund Fleet department.

General Fund/Various Department

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	4125	262	Employee Recognition	\$7,230	\$32,230
10	4251	600	GVPH Water Damage Repair	\$22,453	\$22,453
10	4251	604	DSS Child Support Renovations -143	\$16,005	\$16,005
10	4251	806	2531 E Lyon Station Rd (DSS Butner	\$6,150	\$7,150
10	4251	912	118 Hwy 15, Stovall	\$9,750	\$10,500
10	4251	924	4615 Belltown Drive (GAP Park Comple	\$20,700	\$253,550
10	4251	944	4185 Hwy 15 South, Oxford (Expo)	\$14,326	\$141,826
10	6130	510	Capital Outlay	\$16,835	\$72,835
10	4330	510	Capital Outlay	\$16,173	\$21,673
10	4330	602	Supplemental Grant Exp	\$4,495	\$112,763
10	4330	603	Homeland Security Exercise Grant	\$7,495	\$7,495
10	4390	352	Repairs and Maintenance Equip	\$127,500	\$202,500
10	5860	233	Donations	\$3,001	\$3,101
10	8540	805	Payroll Services	\$91,000	\$151,000

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

10	3990	991	Approp Fund Balance	\$363,113	\$363,113
----	------	-----	---------------------	-----------	-----------

Description: Fund the "roll-over" of open PO's from previous fiscal year.

FY24 Budget Amendment #2

Reference Detail Page 3

				Amendment	Balance after Amendment
Other Funds					
Landfill Fund					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
60	4725	353	R&M - Vehicles	(\$1,000)	\$0
60	4725	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$9,000)	\$1,000
60	4729	251	Gas Oil and Tires	(\$6,800)	\$700
60	9800	010	Transfer to General Fund	\$16,800	\$16,800

Description : Reallocating balance of Gas, Oil & Tire and Vehicle Repair & Maintenance budgets from user departments to the General Fund Fleet department.

Landfill Fund

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

60	4725	599	Construction and Permitting	\$52,000	\$59,500
----	------	-----	-----------------------------	----------	----------

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

60	3991	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$52,000	\$344,029
----	------	-----	---------------------------	----------	-----------

Description: To fund the "roll over" of open PO's from previous fiscal year.

E-911 Fund

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

27	4504	199	In-House Addressing	(\$15,000)	\$10,000
27	4501	357	Radio Software	\$15,000	\$40,000

Description : Transfer in-house addressing (no longer reimbursable) funds to Radio Software.

Fire & Rescue District Fund

81	4341	624	Service Enhancement Funding Allocatic	\$122,000	\$213,538
----	------	-----	---------------------------------------	-----------	-----------

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

81	3991	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$122,000	\$122,000
----	------	-----	---------------------------	-----------	-----------

Description: To roll the service enhancement funding allocation over from the previous year.

B. Approved declaring the following vehicles as surplus to be sold via online auction or by Enterprise Fleet Management if they choose to accept:

VIN	Year	Department	Make/Model	Mileage	Condition
8576	2011	Fleet	Ford Fusion #1	65,784	Fair
8578	2011	Fleet	Ford Fusion #2	77,931	Fair – no engine problems
8577	2011	Senior Services	Ford Fusion	56,893	Runs rough from time to time
9336	2014	Fleet	CR-V	44,784	Fair

C. Approved the following tax refunds, releases and write-offs:

• Refunds	August 24, - September 20, 2023:	\$ 2,283.83
• Releases	August 24, - September 20, 2023:	\$ 117.21
• Write-offs (\$2 and less)	August 24, - September 20, 2023:	\$ 20.01

D. Notification of Granville County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day:

A County sponsored household hazardous waste collection day will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2023 at the Granville County Expo Center from 8:00 am – 12 noon.

E. Approved minutes:

- May 15, 2023 Regular Meeting
- June 5, 2023 Regular Meeting

INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Chair May skipped item six, legislative and budget update, as they were awaiting a guest, and moved on to item 7, Cooperative Extension Presentation on Family and Consumer Sciences Program.

Cooperative Extension Presentation on Family and Consumer Sciences Program

NC Cooperative Extension Agent Jennifer Brown for Granville and Person counties updated the Board on educational efforts across the county. Ms. Brown said that as a Consumer Science Agent, her focus is food such as food safety, preservation, and nutrition as well as the correlations to overall health and wellness. She mentioned NC State University and NC A & T University curriculums and added that they use resources received through connections with cooperative extension offices across the states as well as trusted organizations such as the American Diabetes Association and the Center for Disease Control. She explained that four cross county agents are working across Person and Granville County Centers and that they work together to determine needs and provide programming. She mentioned the **Get Fit, Lose It** program which was funded by the Triangle North Healthcare Foundation to help people meet their health and fitness goals. She highlighted the donation station at the Stovall branch library, and how the program partnered with them in a way that helped local vendors financially but also donated food to local food pantries. She noted that booths are set up at various community fairs throughout the year. She recapped several workshops held at all three of the Senior Centers and talked about some of the accomplishments of the Cooperative Extension Volunteer Association. She mentioned inter-programming efforts and highlighted collaborations with the Sheriff’s Department, our local horticulture agent along with his master gardeners, and Cornwall Community Garden at the New Grassy Creek Missionary Baptist Church.

Commissioner Hinman stated she was honored to have been invited to the Cooperative Extension volunteer dinner the prior week and to learn of all the different programs. She thanked Ms. Brown for her efforts.

Chair May asked Ms. Brown to explain the Farm to Fridge program. She explained that a Lead for North Carolina AmeriCorps Fellow who interned in Granville County was able to get a grant to put refrigeration units in the Thornton Library in Oxford, Stovall Library, and Creedmoor Library and that there are hopes to expand it to the Berea Library as well. They worked with local farmers to collect produce that was made available to the public at the library at no charge as well as recipe cards. Chair May said that things like this help make Granville County special.

Comments were made from the following PowerPoint presentation:



- 
- N.C. A&T
STATE UNIVERSITY



Cross County Area Agent

Challenges

- Target Audiences
- Marketing
- County Needs
- Extra Reporting
- Scheduling issues
- Lack of contact with stakeholders & clients

Ways to Deal

- High Tech, High Touch
- New Funding streams
- Collaborations
- Just Say “No”
- Utilize more volunteers
- Stay Positive → Change is not all bad



Get Fit, Lose It program

- Funded by the Triangle North Healthcare Foundation
- Held challenges, workshops, and an online walking group
- 102 adults enrolled and 72 kids from 2 schools participated in a 9-week Steps to Health Nutrition program
- Improvements include weight loss, lowering of A1c, increase physical activity, drinking more water, etc.

One parent said "My son has tried to apply what he has learned in the Steps to Health program. He now likes milk and Greek yogurt. Thank you for helping kids become healthier!"



Donation Station Program



- Held at the new Stovall Farmers Market at the Library
- Set up a Donation Station booth throughout the summer
- Provided recipes, nutritional handouts, and giveaways to the market visitors
- Utilized trained volunteers

Collected \$170 and donated 155lbs of food to the Farm to Fridge refrigerated unit inside the Stovall Library





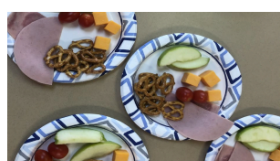
Community Health Fairs

Set up booths providing nutritional handouts, recipe cards, and giveaways at the following events

- Friendship Stew at New Grassy Creek Baptist Church
- COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic
- Women's Health Awareness Day
 - Juneteenth Festival
 - Hot Sauce Festival



Senior Center Workshops



A variety of workshops were held at all 3 of the Senior Center on the topics of mindfulness, meal planning, food budgeting, heart health, MyPlate, nutrition labels, healthy beverages, and different workshop series were offered such as a

- 8-week Take Control chronic disease management program
- 4-session Dining with Diabetes series

One participant of our Dining with Diabetes program was able to drop her A1c from 8.6 to 7.2.



Extension Volunteer Association

- Collected and distributed 2023 calendars for nursing home residents
- Made Valentine's cards for seniors
- Purchased items for Hope House
- Raised \$780 for our College Scholarship fund and awarded 2 college scholarships this year
- Distributed Meal Bags to the Senior Centers
- Sponsored 30 youth in the Backpack Buddies program
- Provided dictionaries to local schools





Inter-Programming Efforts

- We held a Canned Food Drive providing 25 families with meal bags. These bags were given to the Sheriffs Dept to distribute.
- The FCS Agent helped with a 4-H Lifeskills Summer workshop teaching kids basic cooking and knife skills, along with etiquette.
- Brought in \$1500 to help with the Cornwall Community Garden Initiative to purchase gardening equipment, plants, and a storage shed.



Questions?



Jennifer Brown - Extension Agent,
NC Cooperative Extension
Person & Granville County Centers

Follow us online @persongranvillefcs



FOOD for Thought



Legislative and Budget Update

Chair May asked Representative Frank Sossaman to provide a budget update from his perspective followed by Representative Matthew Winslow, and Senator Mary Wills Bode.

Representative Sossamon of the North Carolina General Assembly gave the following legislative and budget updates:

- The maximum number of ten projects was awarded.
 1. \$11.5 million for Vance-Granville Community College for an Advanced Manufacturing Center that is planned to be built at Triangle North Granville. He mentioned that the appropriation process was rigorous, and required doing a lot of homework, making personal appeals to make people aware of the need and importance, and scheduling meetings with chairmen and vice chairmen.
 2. \$10 million Kerr Lake Regional Water System.
 3. \$5 million for South Granville Water and Sewer Authority for infrastructure upgrades.
 4. \$3 million for Vance-Granville Community College for capital improvements.
 5. \$2.93 million for C.A. Dillion Youth Development Center.
 6. \$1 million for economic development site improvements at the Triangle North Business Park.
 7. \$500,000 for the Town of Butner for infrastructure study and downtown development.

8. \$250, 000 for City of Creedmoor for their City Hall renovation and Police Department expansion.
9. He noted that Granville County would be indirectly affected by \$5 million for Maria Parham Hospital to upgrade their old Emergency Room for secure beds for mental health patients. When police officers take mental health patients to a hospital, they have to stay with them until they are in a secure place or transport them to a secure place. With secure beds, they can take them to the hospital in a secure room and then they can leave and do their work. This will cut down on nurses and staff being assaulted because patients will be in secure facilities.
10. \$500,000 for a water line for the Henderson-Oxford Airport. They have well water, but not enough water if they were to have a major fire.

Representative Sossamon thanked the voters and said that he looks forward to continuing our work together in Granville County and that he stands ready to do whatever is possible to see growth, development of infrastructure, and more projects to advance our goals and objectives.

Chair May asked Representative Sossamon to talk about mental health forums and broadband. Representative Sossamon said he held a broadband forum in both Granville and Vance so that the public could be informed and educated and ask the experts from Raleigh. He announced that transportation forums will be held in October and noted that realtors would be invited as well. There will be mental health forums in November which will bring providers together to present the services they provide and help the public understand how to access those services. He listed more forum topics to come and a task force of local citizens that help him keep a pulse on the communities he serves.

Representative Matthew Winslow of the North Carolina General Assembly gave the following overall budget review. He said that our region brought in \$157 million in direct funding, and he noted that he did not believe that has ever been seen in our area, and he credited what good teamwork and cooperation can do. Between Franklin and Granville Counties, \$83 million was awarded of which \$39 million to Granville County. He said that he enjoyed working locally with elected officials who had made their priorities and expectations clear. He championed the budget efforts as a benefit of sound financing and accounting at the state level and said that in addition to the projects for this area they were able to do the following:

- Reduced taxes by \$1.5 billion across the state with growth toward a tax rate of 3.99% of income and zero for corporate taxes.
- Additional funds into the rainy-day fund which is now over \$5 billion and more than the statutory requirement.
- 7.4% raise for teachers, an additional \$2,866 for a local yearly stipend; 7% raise for principals and non-certified school staff; 9% raise for bus drivers; 7% raise for State Employees, and 4% cost of living bonus for State retirees.
- \$2.5 billion for the North Carolina transportation system; and \$2 billion for water and sewer improvements.
- \$1 billion for public school capital projects which was an increase (they've more than doubled the amount). This is only the second time in history that the General Assembly has provided capital financing for projects for schools.
- \$21 million for school supplies.
- \$620 million for behavioral mental health programs.
- \$70 million for school safety grants (doubled from the prior year) this is for LEOs (Law Enforcement Officers) and updates in schools to make them safer.
- \$29 million for services and housing of homeless veterans and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault; and human trafficking.
- \$14 million for broadband improvements at all 47 rural colleges.

- Investments in public safety such as \$2 million to update the state's crime lab and equipment.
- \$125,000 for a study to privatize the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Chair May asked Representative Winslow about LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) funding for schools every two years, specifically if that additional funding is available now for schools that have not been fully funded for SROs (School Resource Officers) or if they would have to wait another year. Representative Winslow responded that as soon as the budget is adopted and the funds become available, the Office of State and Budget Management will distribute those funds through DPI (Department of Public Instruction), and then the County would have the availability to apply for them. Chair May said that he would refer schools back to their office as it sounds like there will be additional funding available.

Commissioner Jay asked if we could do something about the upkeep and maintenance of the DMV building in Oxford. Representative Winslow said that DMVs do receive funds for capital improvements, upkeep, and maintenance and that he can check into it.

Senator Mary Wills Bode of the North Carolina General Assembly noted that DMV request should go to Representative Winslow. She said that a lot of information had been shared by Representative Sossamon and Representative Winslow such as funding for state employees, retirees, and health departments. She highlighted the following local Granville County projects that did not get funded in this budget:

- Regarding the school maintenance fund, Granville County had asked for \$15 million for school maintenance and infrastructure capital. However, as Representative Winslow mentioned, this budget advocates a significant amount to help meet those needs and costs. Historically in North Carolina, this had been the responsibility of the counties, and this budget does allocate a significant amount.
- The budget removed the opportunity scholarship cap and as a result, Granville County is projected to lose about 2% of its State funding for fiscal year 2026-2027 which amounts to approximately \$950,000.
- Regarding the New Commerce Drive extension, Granville County had asked for \$10 million. However, she said that she is hopeful that with the 20% increase in the base budget for DOT (Department of Transportation) allocations, Granville County can get a slice of that.

Commissioner Hinman said that she has been in her seat for seven years and this is the first time she has seen representatives come to tell us about the budget and that she is proud of the three of them. Commissioner Cozart and Willford both expressed their appreciation for the accessibility and efforts of all three representatives and Commissioner Gooch echoed the comments.

Commissioner Jay thanked the representatives and asked for clarification on the health department money. Senator Bode responded that it is about \$50,000 for each department across the state and that she could send them the line item in the budget.

Dr. Rachel Desmarais, President of Vance-Granville Community College (VGCC), then spoke about the advanced manufacturing program at VGCC. She began by saying they have been trying to envision and build an advanced manufacturing program in this area to support economic development for seven years. She gave her thanks to Representative Sossamon for filing the bill specifically for this to get us noticed and thanked Representative Winslow and Senator Bode as well. She emphasized the bipartisan support and thanked the County Commissions for their support as well. Dr. Desmarais explained that Granville County Economic Development, the Triangle North Park board, and the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments joined to set aside approximately 15 acres in the Triangle North Park for this project, and this Board of

Commissioners and the VGCC Board of Trustees allocated money. The Center is going to support industry training needs in the areas of industrial maintenance, mechatronics, electronics, welding, and fabrication. It will serve as an advanced manufacturing company recruitment benefit and support collaborative high school and college and career technical education partnerships. It will help us modernize the work they do and put an emphasis on trades. Diversity of employment and paths is important at VGCC. She emphasized that speed-to-work is of utmost importance for NC to remain number one in business. We must get people trained and realigned to the workforce we have. She said that 30% percent of VGCC students are from Granville County, next in line is Vance County with 22%. She concluded by saying that an investment of this magnitude will send a powerful message to current and future manufacturing stakeholders, that our region values the manufacturing sector, we support growth and innovation, and we believe in employee values.

Commissioner Hinman thanked Dr. Desmarais for sticking with this project.

Chair May said that it is a pleasure working with our delegation and emphasized the importance of engagement and contact interaction at the State level. He thanked Representative Sossamon, Representative Winslow, Senator Bode, Dr. Desmarais and all of those involved in making this project happen.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jon Carver, 6043 Stoney Creek Lane, Oxford, NC said that he was amazed that Representative Sossamon contacted him regarding their local airport authority and that they have not been contacted by any other representative since he was on the Oxford-Henderson Airport Authority Board. Representative Sossamon met with them, asked them about their needs, and listened. He said that he is a man of his word and a man of action. He thanked him for getting the \$500,000 appropriation for the water line out to the airport.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

After Holding Public Hearing, Board Approved Resolution to Submit an Application for the 5310 Transportation Grant – In-Town Oxford Fixed Route

Chair May said that the purpose of this item is to hold a public hearing on the NC DOT 5310 Transportation Grant application for funding during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Chair May declared the public hearing open and recognized Senior Director Kathy May for a brief overview.

Senior Services Director Kathy May provided the following information: They have been receiving the NC DOT 5310 grant each year since 2010. It is funded through federal and state funds, and the local 10% match is met through the ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program) that the county receives each year through DOT. The public hearing is for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This grant allows the purchase of transportation service from KARTS to have a fixed bus route in the city limits of Oxford which makes 17 stops per hour. It begins at 8:00 am at the Granville County Senior Center and from there makes its way to nine (9) senior housing developments, two (2) grocery stores, two (2) pharmacies, our local hospital which has doctor's offices all around, the post office, and the Duke Primary Care Office. The idea behind a fixed bus route is for the individual to get on the van at a stop that is closest to them and then off at another stop that is within walking distance of where they want to go. This last fiscal year this service provided 9,614 one-way trips for our citizens. She said that the resolution in the agenda packet has been updated to reflect the current county manager's name.

Chair May asked if anyone would like to make comments to come forward.

Tyeisha Hewett, 123 Oak Road, Butner, NC, said that she would like to support Kathy May's request as the service would be very beneficial to relatives and people she is in contact with and assists daily.

Commissioner Williford said that he noticed that the buses often park across the street at the old Hardees and asked if that was an issue. Ms. May explained that that is an unrelated KARTS matter, not related to the fixed route. They park there when they are waiting for dispatch to send them to different areas so as not to take up the Senior Center parking spaces.

Chair May declared the public hearing closed and asked if the board needed any clarification on a motion. There were no questions.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the resolution to submit the application for the NC DOT 5310 Transportation Grant funding for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$161,000 and the 10% match of \$16,100.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM RESOLUTION

FY 2025 RESOLUTION

Section 5311 (including ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307, and applicable State funding, or a combination thereof.

Applicant seeking permission to apply for Public Transportation Program funding, enter into agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, provide the necessary assurances and the required local match.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zelodis Jay and seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford for the adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, Article 2B of Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Governor of North Carolina have designated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) as the agency responsible for administering federal and state public transportation funds; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will apply for a grant from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration and receives funds from the North Carolina General Assembly to provide assistance for rural public transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these transportation funds is to provide grant monies to local agencies for the provision of rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services consistent with the policy requirements of each funding source for planning, community and agency involvement, service design, service alternatives, training and conference participation, reporting and other requirements (drug and alcohol testing policy and program, disadvantaged business enterprise program, and fully allocated costs analysis); and

WHEREAS, the funds applied for may be Administrative, Operating, Planning, or Capital funds and will have different percentages of federal, state, and local funds.

WHEREAS, non-Community Transportation applicants may apply for funding for "purchase-of-service" projects under the Capital Purchase of Service budget, Section 5310 program.

WHEREAS, Granville County hereby assures and certifies that it will provide the required local matching funds; that its staff has the technical capacity to implement and manage the project(s), prepare required reports, obtain required training, attend meetings and conferences; and agrees to comply with the federal and state statutes, regulations, executive orders, Section 5333 (b) Warranty, and all administrative requirements related to the applications made to and grants received from the Federal Transit Administration, as well as the provisions of Section 1001 of Title 18, U. S. C.

WHEREAS, the applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the State of North Carolina required for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the County Manager of Granville County is hereby authorized to submit grant application (s) for federal and state funding in response to NCDOT's calls for projects, make the necessary assurances and certifications and be empowered to enter into an agreement with the NCDOT to provide rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services.

Chair May said that he hopes to expand this for the citizens in southern Granville County and noted that one obstacle is that you must have at least 10,000 residents per city and that we are continuing to pursue other opportunities if possible.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Board Approved Granville Expo Center Audiovisual Upgrade Recommendation

IT Director Chris Brame said that the Information Technology department is seeking authorization to negotiate a service contract for the design and implementation of the Granville County Convention and Expo Center's next-generation audiovisual system. He provided the following background information.

In September 2023, the Information Technology Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to design and implement next-generation audiovisual technology for the Expo Center.

The key scope requirements included:

- Upgrade the video system to support modern high-definition hardware connections and optimize video and text content.
- Upgrade the audio system to digital, allowing for one-button presets and HD audio quality within the auditorium and meeting room.
- Install a high-definition camera system to support recording and/or live streaming of public meetings.

The vendor proposals received by the deadline are listed below.

- Custom Light & Sound \$164,472
- BIS Digital \$181,252
- Sharp \$252,550

Mr. Brame said that he contacted vendor references and performed on-site visits to the City of Mebane (Sharp) and the NC General Assembly (Custom Light & Sound) to evaluate equipment and the quality of installation. Through this evaluation process, Custom Light & Sound was determined to be the preferred bidder that best fits the needs of Granville County. The Request for Proposal procedures used for this process are compliant with Section II of the Granville County Contract and Purchasing Policy and partial funding is available in fiscal year 2023-2024.

The Information Technology Director and County Manager recommend negotiations with Custom Light & Sound for a proposal to deliver modifications that best align with Granville County's goals for this project and approve authorizing the County Manager to finalize and execute the contract.

Chair May asked about partial funding and asked if we have funding available. Mr. Brame confirmed.

Commissioner Timothy Karan made a motion to approve the recommendation and it was seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford.

Chair May said that he wants the Board to understand that by committing to this we will be livestreaming our meeting for the public and there will be technological upgrades that modernize our building.

Commissioner Hinman said that she did not feel this was a necessity and that the money could be used for salaries for employees.

When Chair May called for a vote, the Board approved negotiations with Custom Light & Sound for a proposal to deliver modifications that best align with Granville County's goals for the audiovisual upgrade project at the Granville Convention and Expo Center and authorized the County Manager to finalize and execute the contract by a vote of 6-1. Commissioner Sue Hinman opposed the motion.

GRANT MATTERS

Board Approved Homeland Security Grant Program Opportunity

Emergency Management Director Jason Reavis asked the Board to consider accepting a Homeland Security Grant Program sub-recipient award in the amount of \$246,550.00, authorizing North Carolina Emergency Management to conduct activities on behalf of the County in accordance with the grant requirements. He provided the following background information. If accepted, the County would authorize the grant funds to be provided to the State of North Carolina (NC), Department of Public Safety. North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) will conduct Planning, make equipment purchases, train, and fund exercises throughout the State during the Period of Performance (9/1/2023 - 9/1/2026) in accordance with the grant guidelines.

Mr. Reavis said that this is the same grant as last year and would authorize the grant funds to be provided to the State of NC Department of Public Safety which Emergency Management falls under. He emphasized that this has been done in the past, and we have been able to receive funds back through the State of NC Emergency Management, and he mentioned the last shelter exercise as an example. He emphasized that as a sub-recipient, this project is completely managed by the State of North Carolina.

Chair May read the following recommendation. The Emergency Management Director recommends accepting the Homeland Security Grant Program award and authorizing the NC Division of Emergency Management to manage the grant and expend the funds in accordance with the grant guidelines.

Commissioner Tony Cozart said that we have done this in the past and he has not heard of any problems.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved accepting the Homeland Security Grant Program award and authorizing the NC Division of Emergency Management to manage the grant and expend the funds in accordance with the grant guidelines.

Board Approved Engineering Services for the Stand-by Generator Grant – Granville County Conference and Expo Center

Development Services Director Scott Phillips said that this request considers awarding a fixed-price contract for engineering services needed for the CBCG (Capacity Building Competitive Grant) Generator award. He provided the following background information. This past June, Granville County was notified of an award of a Capacity Building Competitive Grant to install a 180kw standby generator and automatic power transfer switch for the Granville County Conference and Expo Center. The \$248,550.00 grant is non-matching; however, services needed to design the interconnectivity of the generator to the building's electrical service system and provide professional guidance in preparing a Request for Proposal to acquire the generator and supporting electrical infrastructure is not included in the grant award. He noted that attached to the request is a proposal from Kilian Engineering Inc. in the amount of \$17,500 for services indicated. He said that his request complies with Section V, Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services (NCGS 143-64.31), and Exemption (NCGS 143-64.32 / Fee not to exceed \$50,000) of the County's Contract and Purchasing Policy, and that the 2023-2024 fiscal year funding can accommodate this request.

Development Services Director Reavis recommended that the County first exempt itself from North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) 143-64.31 by utilizing the exemption indicated in NCGS 143-64.32 as the estimated professional fees is an amount less than \$50,000 and then award the fixed price engineering service contract to Kilian Engineering Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$17,500.

Commissioner Williford noted that the design services include electrical design, bid administration, and construction administration, and then asked if it will be natural gas. Emergency Manager Director Jason Reavis replied that diesel is the way to go with a generator of that size, and it would be able to run the facility for several days.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved exempting the County from the Mini-Brooks Act (NCGS 143-64.31) based on the contract amount being less than \$50,000, and awarding a fixed price engineering service contract to Kilian Engineering Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$17,500.

Chair May said that he wanted to state on the record that when we are looking at the new Senior Center in the northern part of the county, we would also be looking at a generator. Mr. Phillips confirmed that that is the case.

SHERIFF MATTERS

Sheriff Fountain gave the following updates before introducing two agenda items. He reported that after two years a suspect was taken into custody who killed someone and thanked staff for their work on the case. He reported that individuals doing security at all of the schools in Granville County. He said that last week the United States Marshals Service and the Bureau of Prisons conducted another jail inspection which again was very well received, and that the Sheriff's Department will continue to be allowed to house federal inmates. He explained that they are currently housing approximately 12 inmates and that the goal is 20. He emphasized that housing federal inmates will help generate more revenue for our county to pay off the debt for the facility. He thanked his staff for their accomplishments and mentioned a recent arrest at a Granville Central High School football game where an adult showed up with a semi-automatic shotgun, some drugs, and other items. He added that through their partnership with ALE (Alcohol Law Enforcement), they were able to take him into custody.

Board Approved Renewal of Consulting Contract – Robert Bailess

Sheriff Fountain said that this item is regarding the Robert Bailess consulting contract. He explained that Mr. Bailess was hired as a consultant a couple of years ago when the Sheriff's Office was looking at the asset forfeiture program and other operational issues. He said that Mr. Bailess has been a critical part of the Sheriff's Department in the asset forfeiture program, working with Internal Auditor Monique Heggie, Finance, Commissioners, the County Manager, and the County Attorney to ensure that we are going in the right direction. He explained that the request is for fiscal year 2023-2024, July through June 30th, in the amount of \$74,000, which is 1000 projected hours at \$74.00 per hour, of which \$60,000 is already in the contract. Closer to the end of the year, they will manage Mr. Bailess' budget and his hours to see whether they need to use any lapse salary or any other funding to accommodate the completion of his contract or manage his hours to keep them around 60. He will determine what decision needs to be made and bring that to the Board for consideration. He requested that the Board move forward with continuing to keep Mr. Robert Bailess and his consulting firm, Bailess Group LLC, as an asset to the Granville County Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Hinman asked how long they expect to keep the consultant on board. Sheriff Fountain replied that he is now helping with the accreditation program, working with Chief

Lynette Clements. He added that we have a \$40,000 grant that will be utilized for the accreditation process. After accreditation, they will reevaluate the contract. He emphasized that he does not want to waste funds, and Commissioner Hinman concurred, saying that money could go to deputies. Sheriff Fountain agreed.

When asked by Commissioner Williford, Sheriff Fountain clarified that \$60,000 is already set aside and then he will monitor if there is another need for the \$14,000.

Commissioner Williford asked Sheriff Fountain to clarify that they are currently housing 12 federal inmates and that the goal is 20. Sheriff Fountain said that is correct. Commissioner Williford asked about the payment for beds for federal inmates. Sheriff Fountain explained that he is working on a contract to increase the rate per day for the pod that is designated for federal inmates. He highlighted that we are close to the Federal prison and said that he would like the Detention Center to be a hub for federal inmates. The Federal government would also pay for transportation at \$47 per hour, and that money goes back into the general fund.

Chair May asked about staffing for detention. Sheriff Fountain responded that detention is staffed at 86% and they are still hiring. When asked, Sheriff Fountain said that they have built their reputation on safety, sanitation, and security. He mentioned jailed inspections at the Granville County Detention Center by Halifax and Warren counties and a pending inspection by Durham County. He emphasized the importance of maintaining facilities and tied that point to accreditation. Chair May asked if staffing could take on federal inmates without any security, safety, or sanitation issues. Sheriff Fountain confirmed.

Chair May asked where we are with accreditation at this point. Sheriff Fountain explained that they terminated the contract with the person who was handling the accreditation for both the jail and law enforcement. He referred to \$40,000 in grant funds to be used toward the accreditation process, and County Manager Drew Cummings confirmed that those funds are from the GEMS grant for the Governor's Crime Commission. They will hire an outside person to handle the accreditation.

Chair May noted that there was funding for CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) in the most recent legislation that he believes would benefit the county, and asked County Manager Cummings if he was referring to that funding. Mr. Cummings explained that they were not referring to that funding, but he assumed we would investigate any available sources of funding to help with accreditation.

Chair May said that before the Board is the recommendation of the Sheriff to approve the contract to retain the services of Robert Bailess during this fiscal year 2023-2024 and the agreement had been looked at by the County. He read the following statement.

The Board is approving the contract that has been sufficiently reviewed by the County Manager and County Attorney and is compliant with the standard contractual requirements. Therefore, the contract can be executed. Funding is within the Sheriff's annual budget to cover the cost of the consultant service and is within the authority of the Sheriff for s funding such services.

Chair May explained that this would be approving a contract, but the funding is already present with the Sheriff to be spent based on his authority.

County Attorney Wrenn confirmed that we are voting on the procurement process as the monies are within the Sheriff's budget.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the contract with Robert Bailess, the Bailess Group, for consulting services for the Granville County Sheriff's Office for an amount not to exceed \$74,000 from the Sheriff's Office budget for July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 and authorized the County Manager to execute the agreement.

Chair May thanked Sheriff Fountain and his office for the work they are doing.

Board Approved Purchase of Body Armor

Sheriff Fountain said that the next item was the purchase of body armor. He explained that they inventoried their body armor and noted the expiration dates of the vests. They reviewed a study that indicated that 76% of officers who were shot wearing body armor were shot in the torso. He recommended spending \$38,443 to outfit deputies with new body armor and tactical vests, of which \$12,917 will be reimbursed from the Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program. He asked for approval to spend \$38,443 to purchase bulletproof vests from Lawmen's, which he said is a reputable dealer throughout North Carolina, and restated that the \$12,917 will go back into their general fund balance. He explained that funding is in their treasury account asset forfeiture fund budget.

Chair May asked where the reimbursement goes, and Sheriff Fountain said that it goes back to the treasury asset forfeiture fund.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of protective equipment in the amount of \$38,443.83, utilizing U.S. Treasury asset forfeiture funds.

Chair May asked where the Sheriff's Department is regarding overall vests, specifically if we are approaching any other expiration dates. Sheriff Fountain confirmed that we are tracking expiration dates. Chair May asked if it was mandatory to wear a vest in the field, and the Sheriff confirmed, yes, that except for the investigators, everyone is issued a vest.

Sheriff Fountain said that they will be getting a check for \$120,000 from the Department of Revenue in the next 30 days. He explained that the funds are the result of a search warrant on Highway 96 on Mr. Dylan Huff who pled guilty to five felony counts of marijuana. The matter resulted in a \$320,00 tax bill of which they will get 33% that will replenish some of the money they spend.

Commissioner Williford asked how long a vest lasts. Sheriff Fountain explained that most vests last 5 years, but if you get metal plates you can extend their life. Most of the time you are looking at a 5-year window. Chair May confirmed that companies are not willing to stand by their products beyond the shelf life.

Sheriff Fountain explained the design specifications and utility of vests that would be purchased from Lawmen's.

Chair May invited the Sheriff back in December for a quarterly report on metrics.

APPOINTMENTS

Board Approved Appointment to Granville County Planning Board

Commissioner Cozart recommended Cynthia "Nadine" Green for the District 4 vacant seat.

Motioned by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Cynthia “Nadine” Green (District 4) to the Granville County Planning Board.

Board Held Appointments to Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Committee

The Board held appointments to the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Committee. Commissioner Williford encouraged citizens who may be interested in serving to apply.

Board Approved Appointment to Senior Services Advisory Committee

Motioned by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed David T. Smith (District 2) to the Senior Services Advisory Committee to fill an unexpired term.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

County Manager’s Report

County Manager Drew Cummings did not have any items.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

County Attorney’s Report

County Attorney Wrenn said that he had both economic development and personnel matters for closed session.

During County Attorney’s Report, Board Approved Contracting with Mobile Communications America for Services for 911 Phone System

County Attorney Jim Wrenn said the contract with Mobile Communications of America for VESTA 911 system support was entered into several years ago but is on a non-automatic renewal basis. He said that under the previous policies, it was not brought before the Board on an annual basis. Emergency Communications Director Trent Brummitt brought this to the attention of the County Manager, and they reviewed it and agreed that it should be brought to the Board. This matter addresses necessary connectivity issues to run the 911 system and includes backup software and phone connectivity. He said, and Mr. Brummitt confirmed, that is something that we will be doing on the statewide contract starting next year. This is a continuation of an arrangement that has been in place for several years now at an annual cost is \$66,961.68 and this is something that is approved by the 911 board. All the funds are provided through 911 funding. He explained that it was brought before the board to meet the county purchasing and contracting requirements.

Emergency Communications Director Brummitt said that as Attorney Wrenn stated, next year we will move to a hosted system through the State and this contract will be going away as the state will pay for this directly.

Chair May asked to clarify if there is funding from the 911 fund. Attorney Wrenn replied that that is what he has been told.

Motioned by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved contracting with Mobile Communications America for a phone maintenance contract for 24/7 maintenance and support of the 911 phone system in the amount of \$66,961.68 annually utilizing 911 funds.

BOARD PRESENTATIONS

Presentations by County Board Members

Commissioner Hinman thanked the Cooperative Extension for the invitation to the banquet the prior week and said she also attended the Kerr-Tar Council of Government (COG) annual banquet and noted it was nice to see the recipients of the various awards.

Commissioner Cozart acknowledged Ms. Tyiesha Hewett from Social Services and said that the Board knows that have had some challenges with staffing and as they approach dealing with additional Medicaid clients. He asked her to let her team know that the Board is counting on them, and they know that they will do well. He said that it was gratifying to hear nice comments about the appearance of our jail from the road and the facilities from another county.

Commissioner Karan said that the Cooperative Extension has a survey out via Facebook and on the Granville County website regarding farmer's markets. He explained that it is a short two-minute survey regarding food silos between producers and consumers and he encouraged people to fill it out. He said that Paul Westfall, the past executive director of Cooperative Extension who recently passed, was something to behold while he was here. Commissioner Cozart said that Mr. Westfall made it a point to spend time with his kids and grandkids and he was thankful that Mr. Westfall was given time to spend with them. Commissioner Jay added that Mr. Westfall had worked hard for the county up until he retired and that he was a great man who thought a lot of Granville County and represented us well at the state level.

Commissioner Gooch thanked our state representatives for all they have done for us in the legislature to bring home much-needed funding for the county. He thanked the County Manager for his listening series and said he looks forward to continuing with those sessions and to a lot of interaction with citizens in various parts of the county. He mentioned the Lord Granville Agricultural Heritage Association is having its event in Butner this upcoming Friday and Saturday, October 6th and 7th.

Commissioner Jay thanked everyone who attended the COG banquet the prior week and added that it made his heart feel good to see them all there supporting him in his role as outgoing chairman. He reported that he went to the funeral of former Extension Director Johnsie Cunningham's mother who was 99. He noted with the 5130 Transportation Grant funding that Vance, Warren, and Franklin are trying to get funds to do a route like the one in Oxford and like the one we hope to do in the southern end of the county. He mentioned KARTS has a new director, transports people to more places than just to and from medical facilities, and makes over 700 trips a day.

During Board Presentations, Update from Granville Health System CEO Adam McDonnell

Chair May invited Interim CEO Adam McDonnell with Granville Health System to speak about how we are going to improve our EMS (Emergency Medical Services) and address BLS (Basic Life Support).

Interim CEO Adam McDonnell said that it was discussed at their most recent Board of Trustees meeting how they are going to provide BLS transport for patients at the hospital and their skilled nursing facility. They are trying to resolve issues with wait times for patients who get discharged on Friday from the Emergency Department and must wait through Monday for transport. They put a budget together and set aside some capital dollars for the upcoming year. They are working on a pro forma cost analysis for the upcoming year and think that it is a doable plan and that they can find staff. It will take two staff members and a couple of vans, but they are hopeful it can be accomplished by the first of the year.

Chair May reminded the public that the Board had worked on the county's ambulance ordinance and was looking at a private ambulance firm. He said that the Board appreciates that the hospital has come forward with a BLS solution.

Mr. McConnell added that this transport service would be separate from their 911 services.

Board Presentations Continue

Chair May mentioned the upcoming Veterans Health Fair on October 7th at the Butner Armory. He emphasized that over the last three years, our representatives and lobbying efforts have assisted in obtaining over \$90 million coming into Granville County, which includes monies for SGWASA (South Granville Water and Sewer Authority) and GHS (Granville Health System). He explained that the Board is working on relationships with CAMPO (Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization) for roadways, particularly in southern Granville County. Planning Director Barry Baker and County Manager Cummings are working on getting the documentation prepared to present to CAMPO for a Highway 56 traffic study from Butner through Franklinton. He reported that he attended school truck day and that the kids enjoyed it. He reminded everyone that the National Night Out is Tuesday, October 3, 2023, in both Creedmoor and Butner. He thanked County Manager Cummings for his willingness to host the listening sessions. He said that he was glad that Creedmoor Mayor Bobby Wheeler was recognized as the municipal leader of the year at the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Government (COG) banquet the prior week. He thanked Commissioner Jay for serving as the Chair of the COG and said that it was a pleasure to see him lead the event. He emphasized that many of the Commissioners work on other boards to further the work of the county.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board went into closed session at 8:53 p.m. as allowed by N.C.G.S. 143-381.11(a) (3), (4) and(6) for attorney-client, economic development, and personnel matters.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, and unanimously carried, the Board returned to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Russ May, Chair