

GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 5, 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. Pastor David Herman had the invocation and Chair Russ May led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair May pulled item 4 (Resolution to Adopt Granville County Surplus Property Disposition Policy) from the consent agenda and sought the pleasure of the board as to how they would like to proceed with items 1,2,3,5,6, and 7 of the consent agenda.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 on the consent agenda as follows:

A. Approved Budget Amendment#1 for Fiscal Year 2023-2023:

Budget Amendment #1 (Legal Document)
September 5, 2023

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

GENERAL FUND

Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)	Amendment	Fund Total
General Government		
IT	(\$4,438)	
Public Safety		
Emergency Management	\$108,268	
Human Services		
Granville Medical Center	\$441,189	
Social Services	\$375,903	
Area Projects and Other Appropriations		
Non-Departmental	\$500,000	
Contributions to Other Funds		
Contributions	\$4,438	
Total Expenditures		\$1,425,360
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)		
Restricted and Intergovernmental	\$500,000	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$925,360	
Total Revenues		\$1,425,360

LANDFILL

Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Landfill Operations	\$79,438	
	Total Expenditures		\$79,438
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Other Revenues	\$4,438	
	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$75,000	
	Total Revenues		\$79,438

ETSF Fund

Expenditures: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Phone System	(\$9,000)	
	Hardware	\$6,500	
	Total Expenditures		(\$2,500)
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Appropriated Fund Balance	(\$2,500)	
	Total Revenues		(\$2,500)

(For reference only)		Budget Amendment #1 (Details)	Amendment	Balance After Amendment
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General Fund/IT					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	4122	385	Software Licensing	(\$4,438)	\$457,617
10	9800	060	Contribution from General Fund	\$4,438	\$4,438

Description: Transfer funding for Solid Waste IT expenditures from the General Fund to the Landfill Fund

General Fund/Emergency Management					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	4330	602	Supplemental Grant	\$108,268	\$108,268
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10-	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$108,268	\$3,725,144

Description: Transfer ending supplemental grant balance from FY 23 to FY 24.

General Fund/DSS					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	5300	493	Incentive Funds	\$312,510	\$440,724
10	5300	606	Links Special Funds	\$696	\$11,846
10	5300	630	Federal Adoption Assistance	\$62,697	\$82,697
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$375,903	\$3,992,779

Description: To rollover unspent funds from FY 2023 for the programs mentioned above.

General Fund/Granville Health Systems					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	5700	510	Capital Outlay	\$441,189	\$574,062
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$441,189	\$4,433,968

Description: To fund the balance committed for general capital outlays and the purchase of two more ambulances budgeted but not purchased in FY 2023. The original commitment was to fund the purchase of three ambulances, and the first was purchased in FY 2023 and funded for \$246,684.

General Fund/Non-Departmental					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	8540	801	Economic Incentive Payments	\$500,000	\$700,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
10	3327	360	Building Reuse Grant	\$500,000	\$500,000

Description: Recognize the distribution of Building Reuse grant funds for NC DoC for Ontic Engineering.

Landfill					
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)					
60	4725	381	Computer Service	\$4,438	\$4,438
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)					
60	3981	010	Transfer from the General Fund	\$4,438	\$4,438

Description: Transfer funding for Solid Waste IT expenditures from the General Fund to the Landfill Fund

Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)

Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)

27	3439	425	State Cell Surcharge (Wireless)
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Description: Adjust PSAP Funding distribution to the amount agreed upon by the 911 board as of May 24, 2023

Sept 5, 2023
Budget Amendment
Summary

[illegible]

B. Approved Project Ordinance: Stovall Senior Center:

CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE
2023 – Northern Granville Senior Center

Be it Ordained by the Governing Board of Granville County, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the construction of a Senior Center facility in Stovall, NC, financed by funds from the General Operating fund and debt financing.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Project Description	
<u>Component</u>	<u>Amount of Proceeds To Be Used</u>
Stovall Senior Center	\$3,750,000
Total	\$3,750,000

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Amount of Proceeds To Be Used</u>
Contributions from the General Fund	\$1,000,000
Debt Proceeds	\$2,750,000
Total	\$3,750,000

Section 5. The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements as required by Federal and State regulations.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Operating Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursement requests should be made in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Director is directed to report, on a periodic basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and on the total revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this capital project periodically to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

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

• Refunds	July 1, 2023 – August 23, 2023:	\$45,977.48
• Releases	July 1, 2023 – August 23, 2023:	\$161,854.45
• Write-offs (\$2 and less)	July 1, 2023 – August 23, 2023:	\$148.05

D. Approved the following Resolution: NCDOT Request for Abandonment of .20 miles of SR 1727 (Fleming Road) between US 15 and SR 1724 (Northside Road):

*Resolution
North Carolina State Department of Transportation
Request for Abandoning Section of Flemming Road (SR 1727) Between US 15 and Northside
Road (SR 1724)
From The State Maintained Secondary Road System*

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation is requesting the Board of County Commissioners to issue a resolution supporting the abandonment of 0.20 miles of SR 1727 (Flemming Road) located between US 15 and Northside Road (SR 1724): and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the above described road section should be abandoned from the state-maintained secondary road system: and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Granville that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to remove the above described road from the state-maintained secondary road system.

E. Approved the Title VI Program as requested by the North Carolina Department of Transportation:

On behalf of the Granville County Board of County Commissioners, I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Title VI Nondiscrimination Plan. We, the Board, have *reviewed and hereby adopt* this Plan. We are committed to assuring that all decisions are made in accordance with the nondiscrimination guidelines of this Plan, to the end the no person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any Granville County Senior Services and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, creed (religion), or disability, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the nondiscrimination provisions of the Federal Transit Administration.

F. Approved Minutes:

- January 3, 2023 Regular Meeting
- January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting
- February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting
- March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting
- April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting
- April 17, 2023 Regular Meeting
- May 1, 2023 Regular Meeting

INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Terry Hobgood Recognized for Returning to Work

The Board recognized Granville County Information Officer, Terry Hobgood, for his return to work after he fell victim to an incident at the County office a few months ago.

Karen Evans Introduced as the New Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

County Manager Cummings introduced Karen Evans as a recent new hire in the role of Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

Board Recognized Howard Tyler for Service on the Granville County Planning Board

The Board recognized Howard Tyler (District 4) who served on the Granville County Planning Board for 28 years. Commissioner Cozart made comments and presented him with a certificate and a copy of the historical book entitled “Looking Back: 275 Years of Granville County History.”

Board Recognized Ronnie Norwood, Elnora Morehead, and Patricia Penn Recognized for Recent Medal Wins in the National Senior Games

The Board recognized Ronnie Norward, Elnora Morehead, and Patrica Penn for their recent medal wins in the National Senior Games. On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Gooch presented Elnora Norwood and Patricia Penn with a certificate recognizing them for their 2nd-place medal win in bowling. Then Commissioner Jay commented on Ronnie Norwood’s lifelong athletic ability and drive and presented him with the following proclamation recognizing him for his gold medal win in corn hole. He also received a copy of the historical book entitled “Looking Back: 275 Years of Granville County History.”

Proclamation Recognizing Senior Athlete and National Medalist Ronnie Norwood

WHEREAS, Northern Granville couldn’t put Senior Ronnie Norwood in a rocking chair on a porch. The athlete in him could not be contained. Ronnie for about the last five years has been participating in the local Kerr-Tar Senior Games and attends the North Granville Senior Center in Stovall, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie has placed 1st as a Gold Medalist every year he has participated in the local games. He must have stored up energy and techniques during COVID because afterwards, he started participating in the North Carolina State Games, and he ended up qualifying for the National Games by winning in his age group at the State Games in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the National Senior Games is a 20-sport biennial competition for men and women 50 years plus in age, and is the largest multi-sport event in the world for seniors; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in July to compete in the Men’s Singles (60 – 64 age group) cornhole event, which had the largest number of participants of any of the participating age groups, and because of this, Ronnie had to beat out 20 other competitors from across the United States to win the gold medal; and

WHEREAS, there is no doubt that Ronnie is young at heart mind, and spirit. He also competes locally in billiards, mini golf, horseshoes, shuffleboard, and bowling. He was always, likely, to place 1st or 2nd in these events, also; and

NOW, AND THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, THAT the Granville County Commissioners are proud and in awe of the success and accomplishments of Ronnie Norwood in winning the National Gold Medal for Cornhole, and for setting a golden example for all age groups on living their best lives.

Board Recognized Joe Sinnema for His Years of Service in Granville County as a North Carolina State Highway Patrol Master

The Board honored Joe Sinnema for his years of service in Granville County as a North Carolina State Highway Patrol Master. Commissioner Jay made comments and then Chair May read and presented him with the following proclamation:

Proclamation Honoring North Carolina State Highway Patrol Master Trooper Joe Sinnema

WHEREAS, State Troopers are committed to protecting the motoring public, but very few have served and been committed to doing so in the same state and county as Joe Sinnema. Joe Sinnema has served his entire 30-year career in Granville County, North Carolina and it is very rare for any State Trooper to serve their whole career in one place; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Sinnema started his career as a Cadet in the 95th Basic School on September 9, 1995. After his graduation on March 8, 1996, the now Trooper Sinnema, was assigned to Granville County and given the Call Number C753. This number has remained his number to this very day.

Trooper Sinnema was soon promoted to Senior Trooper on March 8, 1999, and on March 8, 2002, to Master Trooper; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Sinnema trained numerous new Troopers as Field Training Officers after they graduated from basic school. He also helped train Cadets while they were in basic school as an Advanced Collision Investigation Instructor; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Sinnema served on special assignments such as hurricanes disaster reliefs, and collisions like the two beer tractor-trailers on Interstate 85 near Oxford in April 2005. He was also one of many law enforcement officers, men and women, who were called to remain on duty and to be vigilant when our country was attacked on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Sinnema was recognized by both the State Highway Patrol and Charlotte Motor Speedway for his years of volunteering to work traffic assignments during NASCAR races, and

NOW, AND THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, THAT the Granville County Commissioners are proud and humbled to recognize a member of the State Highway Patrol, Master Trooper Joe Sinnema, who served with such dedication and loyalty to Granville County, its citizens, and the state of North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, as Master Trooper Joe Sinnema retired on September 1, 2023, Granville County welcomes Citizen Joe Sinnema! May your retirement be as untarnished as your badge C753.

Mr. Sinnema also received a copy of the historical book entitled “Looking Back: 275 Years of Granville County History.”

Announcement Made Regarding Hester Baptist Church’s 200th Anniversary

Commissioner Hinman announced that Hester Baptist Church will be having a 200th-anniversary celebration on Sunday, September 11, 2023 at their 11:00 a.m. service.

Albert “A.J.” Spiess Introduced as the New Veterans Service Officer

The Board recognized Albert “A.J.” Spiess as the new Veteran Service Office. County Manager Cummings emphasized that Mr. Spiess’ background is important to the role he has been brought on to play. Mr. Cummings read the following background:

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Spiess is originally from Lula, Georgia, Spiess and is a retired Veteran of the U.S. Navy. He began his twenty-six years of service after enlisting in Gainesville, Georgia, and eventually rose to the rank of Senior Chief Master at Arms (Military Police). Spiess served on six ships (USS Butte, USS Simpson, USS Briscoe, USS Truman, USS Harpers Ferry, and USS Wasp). Before reaching the rank of Senior Chief Master at Arms, Spiess also served as Deck Seaman and Signalman.

Spiess also has extensive experience serving as an Anti-Terrorism Officer/Physical Security Officer conducting anti-terrorism training, as a Department Leading Chief Petty Officer/Lead Investigator where he investigated larcenies, assaults, suicides, and other security violations, and as a Senior Master Training Instructor at the Navy Police Academy overseeing major curriculum changes and teaching students at all levels of experience.

In addition to his professional experience, Spiess previously volunteered with the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), serving as Chapter Veteran Services Officer where he aided veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other government agencies.

Spiess also holds an associate degree in criminal justice and a bachelor’s degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. He and his wife Corie have one child, Brooke, who is currently attending nursing school. Spiess began his tenure with Granville County as a Veteran Services Technician in July 2022 and most recently served as Interim Veteran Services Officer.

Dr. Stan Winborne Introduced as Granville County Public Schools Superintendent and Update on Joint Athletics Projects

The Board introduced Dr. Stan Winborne as the new Superintendent of Granville County Public Schools. Chair May read a brief bio, and then invited Dr. Winborne to make comments.

Dr. Winborne thanked the board for the warm welcome he has received in his new role. He also thanked each of the Board members who attended the Granville County Public Schools convocation two weeks ago and new teacher orientation events. Dr. Winborne introduced members of his staff: Mr. Jamar Perry, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and Student and Family Services; Mrs. Courtney Currin, Executive Director of Human Resources and Public Information Officer; and Mr. Bill Graham, Executive Director of Operations and Safety. He mentioned that Mrs. Vickie Hines, Interim Finance Office, was unable to attend. He also acknowledged members of the Board of Education who were there to show their support and appreciation. Dr. Winborne shared updates, commenting that the School Board's mantra is FOCUS Forward and that they are going to focus on the fundamentals: safety, academics, attendance, and behavior. He then invited Mr. Bill Graham to make additional comments.

Mr. Bill Graham stated that he is excited about the collaborative effort between both boards and thanked Dr. Cozart and Chair May for leading the charge. He shared a summary of the two renovation projects for J. F. Webb High School and South Granville High School. At J. F. Webb High School, the concessions stand and bathrooms will be renovated, considering Title 9 considerations to benefit the greatest number of people. At South Granville High School, the joint weight room and ROTC room will be renovated, and ROTC will be relocated. Title 9 considerations will also be considered to provide sufficient space for both male and female athletes.

Commissioner Cozart thanked the School Board for the collaborations and the ability to look and take a wide view of needs and expressed his excitement about both projects.

Chair May commented that the Board wants to improve the facilities in every way they can at our schools and that better facilities will help maintain populations. He thanked the School Board on behalf of the Board and expressed a desire to continue a collaborative dialogue and to work on other fronts as well, in particular how we can use joint athletic fields throughout the county to further enhance opportunities for parks and recreation. He stated that he is hoping to hear from Representative Winslow soon regarding the joint MOUs (memorandum of understanding) signed with the School Board regarding staffing of SROs (School Resource Officers) and that if it is not achieved this year, then the Board will pursue it heavily in the next year. For the benefit of the audience, he explained that the goal is to achieve sufficient funding from the State under the Safe School Act to be able to fund our SRO program and place an SRO at every school.

Commissioner Hinman asked if a wire had been taken care of at J.F. Webb High School. Mr. Graham replied that it has been addressed and is now a matter of when they can turn the power off to have it done.

Board Approved Joint Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars and the Ratification of House Bill 306

Dr. Stan Winborne presented on behalf of the Board of Education, asking the Board of Commissioners to join them in support of the *Joint Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars and the Ratification of House Bill 304*. Dr. Winborne stated that the calendar law in North Carolina is quite restrictive for traditional public schools and that they have little discretion about their start date, end date, and how many days they can have in the school year. The Board of Education would like to gain more calendar flexibility so that they can better design programs in the best interest of the students. School districts across the state have been requesting this for some time, but there are some competing interests, especially with the tourism industry, in keeping a more traditional agricultural-based calendar in place. Several Board of Education members had conversations with elected officials and worked to develop a draft bill with Representative Frank Sossamon that was presented to the House of Representatives. The bill is stalled in the Senate, and the Board of Education is hoping that passing a joint resolution with the Board of Commissioners will signal to the General Assembly the importance of the matter. Dr. Winborne asked the Board to adopt the resolution at this meeting so that they can approve it at the upcoming School Board meeting on Monday, September 11th, and then send it to the elected officials.

Chair May emphasized and read a paragraph in the resolution as follows: WHEREAS, the State mandated late August start date means that to complete the school semester and testing before the winter break, Granville County Public Schools is forced to adopt a calendar that contains a fall semester with approximately 18 fewer instructional days than the spring semester, leading to inequities between classes and difficulty preparing for state-mandated tests.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart and seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch to adopt the joint resolution.

When Chair May called for questions on the matter, Commissioner Karan mentioned the ABC collaborative that had allowed Granville County some charter-like flexibilities and asked if calendar flexibility was a part of that.

Dr. Winborne replied that to his recollection the ABC collaborative did not include calendar flexibility. There is a method for underperforming schools, designated as restart schools, to have charter-like flexibility which can include calendar flexibility.

Commissioner Karan noted that it is typical State policy to only allow flexibility on a tenth of what is needed, and Dr. Winborne concurred.

Chair May emphasized that there are school districts across the state that have foregone state law and created their own calendars. He explained that the Board is in support of the School Board's process in hopes that an arbitrary decision will not have to be made in the future.

Chair May called for a vote and the Board unanimously approved the following *Joint Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars and the Ratification of House Bill 306*:

**JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL CONTROL OF SCHOOL CALENDARS AND THE
RATIFICATION OF H.B. 306**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Statutes give local boards of education powers of supervision and control of local school systems; and

WHEREAS, local control over establishing school calendars is an integral component of school system supervision and administrative powers with which local boards of education have been vested; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 the North Carolina General Assembly seized control of setting school calendars and imposed a one-size-fits-all mandate on how school calendars are to be set; and

WHEREAS, the current one-size-fits-all school calendar start date is no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and the end date is no later than the Friday closest to June 11; and

WHEREAS, the State mandated late August start date means that to complete the school semester and testing before the winter break, GCPS is forced to adopt a calendar that contains a fall semester with approximately 18 fewer instructional days than the spring semester, leading to inequities between classes and difficulty preparing for state-mandated tests; and

WHEREAS, exams for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes are given on the same day nationwide, and the current calendar law shortens the amount of time North Carolina's students have to learn the material before test day; and

WHEREAS, major hurricanes and severe winter snow storms have caused challenges in meeting the minimum requirements for instructional time; and

WHEREAS, fall sports and band begin August 1, schedules for extracurriculars have not changed to coincide with the State-mandated school calendar; and

WHEREAS, local boards of education are best equipped to understand the balancing act of meeting the community's needs and maximizing student success; and

WHEREAS, restoring local control of school calendars will allow local boards of education to best meet the calendar preferences of the families, educators, and businesses in our community while allowing for innovative experimental approaches to improve student achievement.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Granville County Board of Education and the Granville County Board of County Commissioners have jointly passed a resolution in support of local control of school calendar flexibility, and the ratification of H.B. 306.

Chair May stated that the public is concerned about the school traffic on the southern end of the county. Dr. Wilborne said that they are happy with the traffic patterns at the new Hawley Middle School, which sits at the site of the old Creedmoor Elementary. Mr. Graham, the Creedmoor Police Department, principal Dr. Kerry Chisnall, and Hawley staff, worked very hard and they have a great plan in place. So almost all the traffic can get off of Hwy 56 for the drop-off and pick up, there is not a lot of parked congestion there in the city of Creedmoor. However, Mount Energy because, it absorbed a lot of the students from Creedmoor, has grown. The morning arrival and dismissal have been problematic, and it has backed up traffic on Highway 56. He thanked Bill Graham and Sheriff Fountain and his team who were there at the entrance and the exit to help with traffic rotation. Traffic has improved each day, especially as parents figure out how it works. The school board has contracted with an outside engineering company that specializes in campus traffic flow and will conduct a study this month on ways that we can improve the queues, and the lining of the cars and further sort out the transition. There are two large parking lot areas, and the school board is not convinced it is maximizing all the space on the campus. If needed, the next step will be to go to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and see what the options are regarding the installation of the turn lane at some point.

Commissioner Jay asked Dr. Winborne to clarify the location of Hawley Middle School. Dr. Winborne explained that Hawley Middle School has moved. Creedmoor Elementary School was closed. Hawley is now on the campus where Creedmoor Elementary once was and has been converted into a middle school. They did a lot of work over the summer, retrofitting it and making age-appropriate renovations. The old Hawley campus is still being used for its athletic facilities for the current Hawley students as the smaller Creedmoor Elementary campus does not have a full-size gym or ball fields. G.C. Hawley Middle School students who play sports in the afternoon ride an activity bus to the Hawley campus to practice and play their games. Additionally, Granville Academy, the smaller K-12 virtual blended school meets at the newer wing at the Hawley Campus two days a week. They still need to maintain the infrastructure at Hawley School as the school is not completely shut down. The School Board will be exploring how to use the Hawley campus, and are applying for grants to rebuild.

Chair May suggested quarterly financial liaison meetings between both boards.

Forest Westall, Executive Director Of Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA), Presented An Update On Recommendations For A Falls Lake Nutrient Management System

County Manager Drew Cummings introduced Forest Westall, Executive Director of UNRBA.

Mr. Westall showed a map of the Upper Neuse River Basin and noted that it spans six counties: Person, Orange, Durham, Granville, Wake Counties, and Franklin. He spoke from the PowerPoint presentation below.

Mr. Westall stated that Falls Lake was built for flood control and that it releases water downstream. Currently, the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy is in Phase I, which costs \$500 million. All Phase I requirements are currently being met. Granville County invested \$100,000 over the last two years and has committed to \$100,000 over the next three years. He stated that the Falls Lake reservoir is the most studied reservoir in NC and that the nutrient levels are stable. The emphasis is on maintaining the current levels. Lake sediments will continue to cycle nutrients for decades. The strategy is a monetary investment over time to maintain long-term nutrient levels. A proposed resolution will be presented to the UNRBA Board for approval on September 20, 2023. The plan is to present to the State as a unified group at the North Carolina General Assembly in December.

The UNRBA's Recommendations for a Revised Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy

September 05, 2023



Upper Neuse River Basin (UNRBA)



- Members
 - Six counties
 - Seven municipalities
 - One water utility
 - Soil and water conservation districts
- Active External Stakeholders
 - Agriculture
 - Environmental groups
 - Land conservation organizations
 - NC DEQ/DWR
 - NC DOT
 - NC DA&CS

2

Falls Lake Designated Uses and Benefits

- Provides drinking water for over 500,000 customers
- Minimizes downstream flooding
- Protects water quality downstream
- Provides habitat
- Provides regional recreational facility



3

Current Falls Lake Regulatory Framework

- Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy
- Passed by the State in 2011
- Two stages of nutrient reductions (relative to baseline year, 2006)
- Reductions assigned by sector
- Estimated costs over \$1.5 billion
- Stage II requirements beyond technological limits
- Allows for re-examination of Stage II



4

Stage I is Being Fully Implemented

New development	- Rules in place since 2012 - Limits nutrient loading from developed sites
Agriculture	- Stage I reductions have been met and production acres have declined by 44% - Nutrient management plans, conservation tillage, best management practices near full implementation
Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs)	- Have exceeded reduction requirements and reduced loading 24 percent for total nitrogen 69 percent for total phosphorus
Existing development	- Installation of more than 350 stormwater retrofit projects - UNRBA nutrient credits project to expand list of credited practices Alternative compliance approach allows for full implementation

5

UNRBA Approach to the Re-examination of Stage II

Science-based approach to water resource management

- Followed the requirements in the Rules and obtained DWR approvals
- Collected four years of monitoring data in the watershed and the lake
- Developed watershed model to understand sources of loading
- Developing three lake water quality models to illustrate impacts on water quality

Collaborative approach to water resource management

- Worked with other researchers and organizations to expand our knowledge base
- Meeting with internal and external stakeholders to discuss recommendations

6

Key Findings from the Watershed Models and Data

- Nutrient loads to Falls Lake have been reduced significantly since 2006 (baseline year of rules)
- Soils store and cycle nutrients for decades
- Rainfall is key driver of nutrient loads
- Little opportunities remain to further reduce loading by significant amounts
- Progress will be incremental

Category	Percentage
Forest	59%
Agriculture	19%
Urban	13%
Open Water	4%
Unmanaged grasslands	10%
DOT	3%

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Key Findings from the Watershed Models and Data

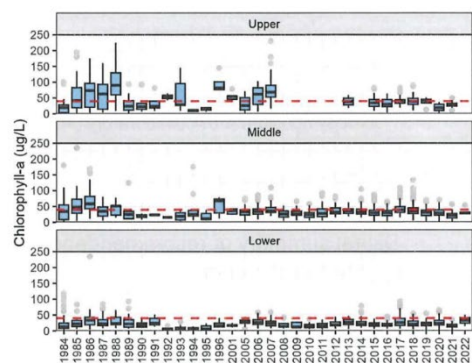
- 75 percent of the watershed is natural, unmanaged land (like forests)
- US Forest Service monitoring studies measured nutrient loads during dry to average rainfall conditions; used to compare to models
- Protecting forests and other natural areas is key to long-term management of Falls Lake

Land conservation site; photo courtesy of Person County

8

Key Findings from the Lake Models and Data

- Chlorophyll-a is a green pigment that plants and algae use for photosynthesis
- Used as an indicator for algae
- The Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy was developed because chlorophyll-a concentrations in Falls Lake are sometimes above the NC standard (40 micrograms/liter)
- Chlorophyll-a in the lower half of the lake has been stable since reservoir was constructed in the 1980s
- The rest of the lake has been stable for the past decade



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Key Findings from the Lake Models and Data

- Data and modeling suggest that large storms and climate change are significant drivers of nutrient loading
- Changes in nutrient contributions/loading to Falls Lake will not have immediate impacts on chlorophyll-a
- Falls Lake is meeting its designated uses even though the chlorophyll-a standard is sometimes exceeded
 - Algae have not been linked to a fish kill since the late 1980s
 - Algal toxins are below EPA guidelines
 - City of Raleigh provides 41 million gallons per day of safe drinking water
- Lake sediments will continue to cycle nutrients for decades



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Stakeholder Input Essential for Developing Recommendations

- Stakeholder Feedback (2023)
 - WRI Annual Conference (March)
 - Meeting with EPA staff (March)
 - Joint Symposium with Collaboratory (April)
 - Technical Stakeholder Workshop (August)
- Agriculture representatives
- NC Department of Environmental Quality
- Digital summary of recommendations with [link](#) for social media



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Implications for a Revised Nutrient Management Strategy

- Additional large-scale nutrient load reductions are not achievable
- Long-term nutrient management is most effective approach
- Ongoing action is needed to protect this resource and maintain uses
- A more appropriate site-specific chlorophyll-a standard is needed



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Principles for a Revised Strategy



Nutrient Reduction Opportunities

Existing Lands

- Stream, wetland, buffer restoration
- Floodplain expansion
- Road and logging best practices
- Controlled burns, harvesting, forest and vegetation management
- Educate owners of stormwater control measures on proper maintenance
- Stormwater retrofits*

Wastewater related

- Track best available technologies and costs
- Encourage minor facilities to improve effluent quality*
- Identify and remedy illicit discharges*
- Track and address failing OWTS*

New development

- Continue implementing rules
- Update local ordinances to allow innovative stormwater solutions

Atmosphere

- Tree planting along busy roads
- Air pollution reduction technologies
- Public transportation
- Green energy sources

*Practices with State-approved credits

Alignment with Granville County’s Planning Goals

Example Planning Goals	Aligned Concepts
Conserve agricultural resources	The UNRBA proposes to partner with agriculture to help implement projects and activities
Protect sensitive environmental areas, increase tourism, and recreational facilities for residents	The proposal encourages preservation of natural areas
Provide equitable community services and facilities in all council districts	The proposal considers fairness and equity by including upstream communities and downstream users of Falls Lake
Create an interconnected transportation system for all users	The expanded program encourages public transportation

Planning goals are based on the [Granville County 2018 Comprehensive Plan](#)

Next Steps for Submittals to the NC Division of Water Resources and the Environmental Management Commission

- UNRBA Recommendations and Consensus Principles II
 - Consideration by the UNRBA Board of Directors on September 20, 2023
 - Local government approvals in October and November 2023
 - Final submittal in December 2023
- UNRBA modeling reports submitted for review by DWR in December 2023
- UNRBA begin coordinating with DWR on the Rules readoption process
- Regulatory Forum in Spring 2024 regarding the Rules readoption process
- DWR anticipates rules readoption by 2027

Additional Information

- Comprehensive website - <https://www.unrba.org/>
- General information website - <https://upperneuse.org/>
- Reference documents
 - [UNRBA Infographic](#)
 - [UNRBA Fast Facts](#)
 - [Overview of the Work of the UNRBA](#)
 - [Comprehensive UNRBA Monitoring Data Report](#)
- NC Collaboratory Falls Lake Study website - <https://nutrients.web.unc.edu/resources/>
- UNRBA Recommendations for a Revised Nutrient Management Strategy: <https://unrba.org/reexamination>

Forrest R. Westall, Sr.
Executive Director

Email: forrest.westall@unrba.org

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Chair May opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Williford asked for the status of Phase II. Mr. Westall explained that Phase II is on hold pending evaluation and new rules adopted by the NC General Assembly.

When asked how the Tar River Land Conservatory (TRLC) relates to what the UNRBA is doing, Mr. Westall replied that the TRLC and other organizations like it help to identify property in land preservation efforts.

Chair May asked Mr. Westall to elaborate on Granville County’s role in leading a charge that holds others accountable. Mr. Westall replied that Granville County was the first to allocate funds. The self-evaluation process will play an important role in keeping people accountable, and the joint evaluation documentation will be open to everyone across jurisdictions.

Commissioner Karan referred to slide 14 and asked if HOAs (Homeowners Associations) are considered an innovative stormwater solution. Mr. Westall confirmed that HOA policies represent one kind of innovative stormwater solution and made further comments.

No action was taken as a proposed resolution will be presented to the UNRBA Board for approval on September 20, 2023, and then will come back to the Board and the boards of the other governments in the UNRBA area for approval. (Board acted on 11/6/2023)

Granville County Employee NCDOT Fall Litter Sweep - Friday, September 15, 2023

Environmental Programs Director Jason Falls announced the Granville County Employee North Carolina Department of Transportation fall Litter Sweep on Friday, September 15, 2023. He read the following information:

The County has taken an active stance to help address litter issues in the County. Twice each year, County Employees and Commissioners are provided an opportunity to participate in a litter cleanup program in conjunction with the NCDOT Litter Sweep program.

The NCDOT-sponsored “Fall 2023 Litter Sweep” begins September 16th and concludes September 30th. Volunteers within the county government are needed to help clean a section of road(s) within the county. The scheduled day of litter pickup will be held on **Friday, September 15, 2023**, with a rain date scheduled for **Friday, September 29, 2023**.

County employees participating can earn 20 points towards wellness activities by participating.

Chair May asked if members of the public could participate. Mr. Falls stated they can contact him at 919-691-0928, and he can deliver the clean-up supplies to them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

After Holding Public Hearing, the Board Approved an Economic Development Incentive for Altec Industries and Associated Resolution

Chair May said that the purpose of this public hearing was to hear the views of the public on aiding and encouraging the location or expansion of industrial facilities in Granville County, specifically Altec Industries.

At this point, Chair May declared the public hearing open and recognized Interim Economic Development Director Audrey Boone for a brief overview.

Interim Economic Development Director Boone provided the following information. The Altec Industries facility located in Creedmoor was awarded a building reuse grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce for its investment of over \$30 million into renovating a 355,000-square-foot facility on its Creedmoor campus. The company will create 70 jobs because of the project. This is Altec's 4th expansion into the Creedmoor campus, and this was a competitive project in nature since other Altec facilities were being considered for this investment and job creation. The maximum cost of County-funded improvements for this project would total \$300,000. This includes a 5% required match by the local government entity for the Building Reuse Grant award, which amounts to \$25,000, and a cash incentive of \$275,00 from the County and is recommended by the Economic Development Advisory Board. She recommended the Board approve the proposed incentive.

Anyone wishing to speak on the matter was asked to come forward.

Danielle Hayes, 2094 Creekside Drive, Franklinton, NC, said that a partnership with Altec would be a welcomed opportunity to expand the Granville County Public School system's CTE (Career and Technical Education) program and that she supported the expansion.

Chair May asked if the Board had questions.

Commissioner Gooch commented that Altec is in the town limits of Butner with a Creedmoor address.

Commissioner Jay stated that he is retired from Altec and that Altec is a family company.

Commissioner Hinman mentioned that Altec is a good community partner and helps at ACIM.

County Manager Cummings emphasized that the County will be ahead monetarily as it will be receiving tax revenues before any incentives are paid.

When asked, Audrey Boone replied that currently there are a little over 900 employees and that this will add 70. She added that we do have performance agreement provisions in all contracts to meet those requirements for job creation.

Chair May declared the public hearing closed and asked the pleasure of the board.

Commissioner Robert Williford made a motion to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Zelodis Jay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

After the next item, Chair May came back to this item to include the associated resolution that was not originally included in the motion. He reopened the matter. There were no questions or discussion.

Motioned by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the total \$300,000 incentive package for Altec Industries and authorized the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize an economic development incentive agreement with the company with the County Manager to execute the agreement that includes a 5% match of \$25,000 towards the Building Reuse Grant provided by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and a cash incentive of \$275,000 and the following resolution:

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT
North Carolina Department of Commerce Building Reuse Program**

WHEREAS, in June 2004, the North Carolina General Assembly passed House Bill 1352, authorizing funds to stimulate economic development and job creation in distressed areas through constructing critical water and wastewater facilities, addressing technology needs, renovation of vacant buildings, and implementation of research and demonstration projects; and,

WHEREAS, in July 2007, the General Assembly passed House Bill 1473 to expand the Economic Infrastructure Fund and to provide funding to facilitate economic transitions in rural communities; and,

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division Building Reuse Program was created to spur economic activity and job creation by assisting in the productive use of buildings in rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville is engaged in activities to assist in the productive use of buildings, specifically the renovation and an existing building for Altec Industries located at 1550 Aerial Ave, Creedmoor, NC that will increase the number of jobs in the area; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville requested grant assistance from the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division's Building Reuse Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF GRANVILLE:

That the County of Granville will provide a total Incentive of \$300,000.

That the County of Granville will provide a 5% match of the \$500,000 Building Reuse Grant and cash incentive,

That the County of Granville will provide for efficient administration, implementation, and operation/maintenance of the grant.

That the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the North Carolina Department of Commerce may request in connection with the grant application and project; to make assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application and grant.

That the County of Granville has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

After Holding Public Hearing, the Board Approved an Economic Development Incentive for Auction Direct USA and Associated Resolution

Chair May said that the purpose of this public hearing was to hear the views of the public on aiding and encouraging the location expansion of industrial facilities in Granville County, specifically Auction Direct USA.

At this point, Chair May declared the public hearing open and recognized Interim Economic Development Director Audrey Boone for a brief overview.

Interim Economic Development Director Boone provided the following information. The newly located Auction Direct USA facility in Oxford was awarded a large incentive package, a Building Reuse Grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce for its \$2.9 million investment into renovating and upfitting its facility on part of the former Santa Fe Tobacco Company campus in the Oxford Industrial Park. The company will create 173 jobs

because of the project. This project was also competitive as other states were considered. The maximum cost of County-funded improvements would be \$25,000, which is the 5% required local government match for the Building Reuse Grant Award. She recommended the Board of Commissioners approve the proposed incentive amount.

Chair May asked anyone wishing to speak on the matter to come forward. No one came forward to speak on the matter.

Commissioner Williford commented that the 175 proposed jobs have an average salary of \$83,000.

Chair May declared the public hearing closed and asked for a recommendation from the Board.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the total \$25,000 incentive package for Auction Direct USA and authorized the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize an economic development incentive agreement with the company with the County Manager to execute the agreement that includes a 5% match of \$25,000 towards the Building Reuse Grant provided by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the following associated resolution.

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT
North Carolina Department of Commerce Building Reuse Program

WHEREAS, in June 2004, the North Carolina General Assembly passed House Bill 1352, authorizing funds to stimulate economic development and job creation in distressed areas through constructing critical water and wastewater facilities, addressing technology needs, renovation of vacant buildings, and implementation of research and demonstration projects; and,

WHEREAS, in July 2007, the General Assembly passed House Bill 1473 to expand the Economic Infrastructure Fund and to provide funding to facilitate economic transitions in rural communities; and,

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division's Building Reuse Program was created to spur economic activity and job creation by assisting in the productive use of buildings in rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville is engaged in activities to assist in the productive use of buildings, specifically the renovation of an existing building for Auction Direct USA located at 3220 Knotts Grove Road, Suite B, Oxford, NC that will increase the number of jobs in the area; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville requested grant assistance from the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division's Building Reuse Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF GRANVILLE:

That the County of Granville will provide a total Incentive of \$25,000.

That the County of Granville will provide a 5% match of the \$500,000 Building Reuse Grant,

That the County of Granville will provide for efficient administration, implementation, and operation/maintenance of the grant.

That the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the North Carolina Department of Commerce may request in connection with the grant application and project; to make assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application and grant.

That the County of Granville has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

After Holding Public Hearing, the Board Approved an Economic Development Incentive for Bridgestone Bandag and Associated Resolution

Chair May said the purpose of the public hearing was to hear the views of the public in and aiding and encouraging the location or expansion of industrial facilities in Granville County, specifically Bridgestone Bandag.

At this point, Chair May declared the public hearing open and recognized Interim Economic Development Director Audrey Boone for a brief overview.

Interim Economic Development Director Boone provided the following information. Bridgestone Bandag facility located in Oxford was also awarded a Building Reuse Grant. The North Carolina Department of Commerce awarded the company \$450,000 for its \$1.6 million investment into renovating its facility on Industry Drive. It will create 61 jobs. The maximum cost of County-funded improvements would total \$22,500. This is the 5% match for the local government requirement of the Building Reuse Grant Award and in total would be \$22,500. She recommended that the Board of Commissioners approve the proposed incentive amount.

Chair May asked anyone wishing to speak on the matter to come forward. No one came forward to speak on the matter.

Commissioner Hinman asked which building. Ms. Boone stated she was unsure, but she knew that it was listed in the paperwork.

Chair May declared the public hearing closed and asked the Board for a recommendation.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the total \$22,500 incentive for Bridgestone Bandag and authorized the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize an economic development incentive agreement with the company with the County Manager to execute the agreement that includes the 5% match of \$22,500 towards the Building Reuse Grant provided by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the following associated resolution.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT
North Carolina Department of Commerce Building Reuse Program**

WHEREAS, in June 2004, the North Carolina General Assembly passed House Bill 1352, authorizing funds to stimulate economic development and job creation in distressed areas through constructing critical water and wastewater facilities, addressing technology needs, renovation of vacant buildings, and implementation of research and demonstration projects; and,

WHEREAS, in July 2007, the General Assembly passed House Bill 1473 to expand the Economic Infrastructure Fund and to provide funding to facilitate economic transitions in rural communities; and,

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division's Building Reuse Program was created to spur economic activity and job creation by assisting in the productive use of buildings in rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville is engaged in activities to assist in the productive use of buildings, specifically the renovation of an existing building for Bridgestone Bandag located at 505 W Industry Drive, Oxford, NC that will increase the number of jobs in the area; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Granville requested grant assistance from the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division's Building Reuse Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF GRANVILLE:

That the County of Granville will provide a total Incentive of \$22,500.

That the County of Granville will provide a 5% match of the \$450,000 Building Reuse Grant,

That the County of Granville will provide for efficient administration, implementation, and operation/maintenance of the grant.

That the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the North Carolina Department of Commerce may request in connection with the grant application and project; to make assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application and grant.

That the County of Granville has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

County Manager Cummings thanked Ms. Boone for all of her hard work in recent months.

PURCHASING

Board Approved Remote Control Lighting for Gap Ball Fields, Phase II

Chair May said the next item was to approve the purchase and installation of remote-controlled lights for the Granville Athletic Park Phase II youth baseball fields and soccer fields. Phase I lighting was previously approved in October 2022 for the baseball fields.

Raymond Allen, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager, explained that lighting can be set on a schedule and turned on/off via an app or desktop software, and that without remote control lighting, park staff need to be on-site to turn the field lights on/off which can keep the staff on site as late as 10:30 p.m. during the week. Remote-controlled lighting saves the staff time and the County money because staff will not need to stay late to turn off the lights. Phase II would allow for 16 additional poles.

Commissioner Williford asked who else controls the lights. Mr. Allen responded that he and his assistant have apps and they can also set a lighting schedule on their computer. He said that the remote-controlled lighting will pay for itself within 3 years.

Motioned by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, Seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposal from Tommy Lawrence Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$21,895 for materials and labor to install remote-controlled lighting at GAP Phase II youth baseball fields and soccer fields.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MATTERS

Board Approved Purchase of 156 Cots For Shelter Trailer With \$12,500 LATC Grant Funding

Emergency Management Director Jason Reavis provided the following background information. Granville County Emergency Management needs to replace most of the cots on their shelter trailer because they are well past their useful life as most of them are approximately 20 years old. Through the County, they were awarded a portion of the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) for \$12,500. The lowest quote they found for quality cots was from ProPac. The amount awarded would allow Emergency Management to purchase 100 oversized and 56 regular-sized cots. They would use the Duke Energy Grant they received last fiscal year to purchase the remaining cots needed.

When asked to clarify the purpose of the cots, he explained that the cots are in case Granville County needs to operate an emergency shelter.

Motioned by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of 156 cots for the shelter trailer from ProPac, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$12,500 from the Local Assistance and Triable Consistency Fund (LATCF) Grant.

Board Approved Virgilina Fire Department Part-Time Staffing

Emergency Management Director Jason Reavis provided the following background information. The Fire Commission originally put forth a budget to provide part-time staffing to the 12 Fire Departments in Granville County. All departments would get one (1) part-time firefighter, 10 hours a day (Monday through Friday). Because of the historical funding methods of the Virgilina Volunteer Fire Department in which they received 60% of the funding that the other Volunteer Fire Department received, they would only be funded 3 days a week for their part-time staff. This is in the current budget ordinance for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This was revisited at the August 8th Fire Commission meeting. It was voted unanimously to provide the citizens in the northwestern portion of Granville County the same coverage as the 11 other Volunteer Fire Departments. This would allow Virgilina Fire Department to be able to staff 1 part-time person Monday- Friday, 10 hours during the day. The cost difference in adding the 2 additional days a week will be \$20,160. In the current budget ordinance, funding was made available to pay workers' compensation for the Fire Departments in the budgeted amount of \$24,375. The State of North Carolina is paying the cost associated with workers' compensation this year as they did last fiscal year. This fund would more than cover the \$20,160 needed for this staffing.

Mr. Reavis noted that on this date there was a fire, and it was the first day for a paid staffer at Granville Rural Fire Department. The fire was contained to minimal damage which otherwise might have been a total loss.

When asked, Mr. Reavis clarified that the State funds are for the last fiscal year and this fiscal year, and that going forward the position would need to be funded. However, we had approximately \$90,000 that was not accounted for in these funds. Commissioner Williford asked for clarification that this year and next year will be funded, but it will need to be revisited the following year and Mr. Reavis confirmed.

Commissioner Gooch asked if this is on a reimbursement basis, Mr. Reavis confirmed and added that reimbursement is monthly.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved additional funding for part-time staffing for two additional days per week for the Virgilina Fire Department in the amount of \$20,160 from the current budget.

Update on Fire Commission Matters

When asked to give an update on the status of the fire contracts, Mr. Reavis provided the following information. Eleven of the Volunteer Fire departments had the contract in hand. Ten of the 11 had already signed. Of the one that has yet to sign, they met with them the prior week to discuss any issues they had with them and expect to have a resolution soon. For the two municipal departments that we provide funding for, a letter was sent to them to let them know what steps they had to take to receive the funding this year because there are different contracts. He explained that for the municipalities they are providing mutual aid versus primary coverage.

When asked, Mr. Reavis explained that Oxford and Butner are ready to go for funding and that he expects Oxford to submit their information soon, and Butner usually submits in the spring.

When asked how many departments are manning volunteer fire trucks during the day, he replied that he officially knew about two, and added that most were waiting until the beginning of this month to start.

When asked for the status of the Creedmoor contract, County Attorney Wrenn stated that he reviewed a draft that was sent back, and other than one question he was ready to approve it. It should be moving forward soon.

Chair May noted that manned personnel is \$50,400 per year out of the fire tax per volunteer fire department.

APPOINTMENTS

Board Approved Appointments To Parks, Greenways, And Recreation Advisory Committee

Chair May said that the purpose of this item is to make appointments to the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motioned by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Cynthia Ratliff, Chamber Director, (At-Large) to the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Marvin Davis (District 4) to the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Board held appointments to District 2 and additional At-Large seats.

Board Approved Appointment to Oxford Board Of Adjustment – Extraterritorial Member

Motioned by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Sandy Woody (District 3) to the Oxford Zoning Board of Adjustment as an (ETJ)extraterritorial jurisdiction member.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

Board Approved Interlocal Agreement Between Granville County and the City of Creedmoor for Shared Grant Writing Services

Public Information Office Terry Hobgood said that this item is to approve an interlocal agreement with the City of Creedmoor to fund a shared Grants Officer position. This agreement was included in the 2023-2034 fiscal year budget for both organizations. The draft agreement would provide the legal framework for this collaborative position with Granville County and the City of Creedmoor. Granville County Administration met with Creedmoor City Manager Mike Turner to discuss job duties and expectations from both organizations. The parameters were agreed to by County Manager Drew Cummings and City Manager Mike Turner, both of whom have provided edits.

The County Manager recommended authorizing the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize and execute the draft interlocal agreement with the City of Creedmoor for the Grants Officer position, pending approval of the Creedmoor Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Cummings noted that the City Manager of Creedmoor is also presenting this matter to their board this week.

Motioned by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Sue Hinman, unanimously carried, the Board approved authorizing the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize and execute the Interlocal Agreement between Granville County and the City of Creedmoor for Shared Grant Writing Services.

Board Announced County Manager Listening Sessions

County Manager Cummings announced upcoming listening sessions throughout the county. The meetings will be held in the following locations and will begin at 6:30 p.m.:

- September 14 | Stem Ruritan Club | 3575 Old NC 75, Stem
- October 5 | Granville County Senior Center | 107 Lanier Street, Oxford
- October 12 | Tar River Elementary School | 2642 Philo White Road, Franklinton
- October 17 | Camp Oak Hill, 1528 Oak Hill Road, Oxford
- October 26 | Creedmoor Community Center | 116 Douglas Drive, Creedmoor
- October 30 | Butner Town Hall | 415 Central Avenue, Butner
- November 14 | Stovall Library | 300 Main Street, Stovall

County Manager's Report

County Manager Cummings said that the North Carolina Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity announced GREAT (Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology) Grant made announcements about funding. Granville County received a copy of the letter that was sent to Spectrum which stated that our second application for GREAT Grant funds had been funded by the State and that in addition to the 1900 locations that were funded in the first round, we received approximately an additional 1500 locations that would be served by this second grant. He noted there are other grants that he hopes the county will receive.

When asked about the difference between underserved and unserved and how that relates to federal funding, Mr. Cummings explained that the federal funds are focused on making sure that everybody has some level of internet connection, and therefore rural areas will likely be the focus of this significant amount of federal funding.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney Wrenn did not have any items.

BOARD PRESENTATIONS

During Presentations, Board Approved Table for the Crime Stoppers Banquet

Commissioner Jay said that the Crime Stoppers Banquet is coming up on October 24th and asked the Board to consider purchasing a table for the banquet.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved purchasing a table for the Crime Stoppers Banquets on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at the cost of \$120.

Presentations Continue

Commissioner Jay reminded the Board that the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Government is having their annual banquet this year in Granville County at Carlee Farms off of Belltown Road and encouraged the Board to get their applications in for award nominations. He then asked if there are any re-entry programs after opioid recovery.

Commissioner Gooch explained that the Opioid Advisory Committee is working with the Health Department but have not appropriated any funds for any specific programs. He added that they have hired a coordinator with hopes that that position can be split with Vance County in the future. Chair May noted that we do have a program with Vaya known as Vision Behavioral Health Services in Oxford that is a walk-in clinic.

Commissioner Williford said that he was absent from the last meeting because he had planned a trip before being elected to celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary. He mentioned the Hot Sauce Festival this upcoming Saturday, September 9th in Oxford.

Commissioner Jay said that he also missed the July meeting because he went on a bus trip to see a replica of Noah's Ark. He emphasized that his absence was the first time he remembers missing a meeting in 29 years.

Commissioner Hinman said she and other Board members attended the NCACC (North Carolina Association of County Commissioners) conference and enjoyed the classes. She also said that she met two people there who might be excellent candidates for the opioid coordinator position.

Commissioner Cozart said that the Sheriff from Halifax County visited our Detention Center and noted that Halifax County Commissioner Bryant was impressed and made note of how it looks from the road. He reported that the prior weekend his family reunion was at the Expo Center, and they appreciated the facility, especially the good parking for the elderly. He mentioned the

quick turnaround he received for a request sent to the Clerk and the response from Veterans Services. He said that is good to have friends who are there for you when you are in the trenches and said he is very proud to be a part of this Board.

Commissioner Karan said that with the GREAT Grant award, we reduced our contribution by \$990,000, and we are only paying \$10,000. He appreciates those who work on our digital infrastructure. He mentioned the Cooperative Extension’s annual volunteer appreciation event is on September 27th at Carlee Farms in Granville County. He said that the recent shelter event held by On-Target at the Granville Convention and Expo Center on August 8th displayed the Animal Control trailer and shower facility and emphasized that one of the reasons people do not evacuate during a storm is because they do not want to leave their pets.

Commissioner Gooch mentioned the NCACC conference in Raleigh saying there were a lot of classes, good information, and vendors. He had a conversation with Builder Services in which they discussed air quality and the collection of mold and dust in HVAC systems. He suggested we investigate having air ducts inspected in county buildings on a rotating basis and emphasized that it could save money down the road, noting he was not recommending a company but inspection and maintenance of air ducts.

Chair May said that during the NCACC conference in Raleigh, one key takeaway was about how to get funds to build schools. He noted how difficult it is for a Tier 2 or Tier 3 county to obtain funding if you are not consolidating more than one school; noting that the funding formula is set. He mentioned the Veteran’s Health and Resource Fair on October 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Butner. He noted the upcoming Creedmoor Musical Festival on September 16th. He thanked the staff for their attendance and hard work to ensure that the meeting ran smoothly.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

There we no additional matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Russ May, Chair