

GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 3, 2023
GRANVILLE EXPO AND CONVENTION CENTER
4185 US Highway 15 South, Oxford, North Carolina.

PRESENT:

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

County Manager Drew Cummings
Assistant 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. Commissioner Zelodis Jay had the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Approved budget amendment #5 for fiscal year 2022-2023:

Budget Amendment #5
April 3, 2023

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

GENERAL FUND

Expenditures:Increase/(Decrease)			
General Government			
Community Services			
	County Library System	1,700	
	Economic Development	9,000	
Human Services			
	Social Services	2,155	
Area Projects and Other Appropriations			
	Non-Departmental	150,000	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		162,855
Revenues: Increase/(Decrease)			
	Restricted and Intergovernmental	3,855	
	Appropriated Fund Balance	159,000	
	<i>Total Revenues</i>		162,855

E-911 FUND

Expenditures:Increase/(Decrease)			
	Phone System and Furniture	(19,500)	
	Hardware	19,500	
	<i>Total Expenditures</i>		0

	Budget Amendment #5		
(For reference only)		Balance	

Description

General Fund/DSS						
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	5300	609	APS Essentials	\$2,155		\$9,734
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	3538	330	Administration	\$2,155		\$4,580,175
<i>Description: DSS budget amendment #5 - Adult Protective Services.</i>						
General Fund/Economic Development						
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	4920	641	KTR Economic Devel Corp	\$9,000		\$45,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$9,000		\$6,417,925
<i>Description: Fund budgeted FY 2022 4th KTR Economic Devel Corp contribution. Finance department does not have record of receiving the invoice for 4th quarter of FY 2022.</i>						
General Fund/Library						
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	6110	585	Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant	\$1,700		\$7,500
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	3611	362	Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant	\$1,700		\$7,500
<i>Description: Additional funds to purchase 23 Microsoft Surface laptops as part of the Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant.</i>						
General Fund/Non-Departmental						
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	8540	125	Revaluation Reserve Appropriation	\$150,000		\$550,000
Revenues: Increase/ (Decrease)						
10	3990	991	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$150,000		\$6,567,925
<i>Description: To fund Tax Department projected revaluation expenditures for the balance of FY 2023.</i>						
E-911 Fund						
Expenditures: Increase/ (Decrease)						
27	4500	321	Phone System	(\$6,000)		\$91,500
27	4500	322	Basic Line Charges	(\$13,500)		\$11,500
27	4502	355	UPS Hardware	\$6,000		\$7,000
27	4502	354	Recorder hardware	\$13,500		\$45,724
<i>Description: To fund additional UPS maintenance and recorder replacement.</i>						

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carlos Velez, 32 Church Street, Oxford, NC, asked the Board to consider pay raises for the deputies so we will not lose anymore.

Scotty Brooks, 104 Smith Street, Oxford, NC, asked the Board to take a hard look across the board at law enforcement pay and consider pay raises for deputies. He mentioned concerns with that other agencies pay better and we need to retain our officers. He also mentioned concerns with attacks on the Sheriff and asked everyone to give him a chance as he believes it cannot get any worse as he is trying to clean things up. He asked the Board to do what is right.

Brad Oldenburg, 6588 Huntsboro Road, Oxford, NC, said he was present to speak in support of the Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff, and the County Commissioners. He said there have been attacks on the Sheriff and County Commissioners on social media. He said all funding requests by the Sheriff to the County Commissioners have been approved and that the request for salary increases are being worked on to his understanding. He said it is good to hold the Commissioners and Sheriff accountable. He talked about the press at a recent meeting not covering the spirited conversation between the Sheriff and commissioners and said that the good and the bad needs to be reported. He said he hopes everyone will be held accountable.

Chair May opened the floor for comments by Board members.

At this time, Board members and the County Manager made comments including remaining positive and working together, recent pay adjustments made before the election of Sheriff including recruitment and retention bonuses, further evaluation of law enforcement salaries and anticipated adjustments during the budget, taking a thorough and comprehensive look at salaries, and how raises may impact taxes of the citizens. Chair May noted that the Board is

committed to making pay raises for the Sheriff's Office and other county employees and want to do it without an increase in taxes. He also noted that the Board did not mess this up and there is no corruption on the Board. He said the goal is to work with the Sheriff to get things done in partnership. He noted that not everyone leaves because of money, noting that has been a lot of changes in the last few years in the Sheriff's Office.

PLANNING MATTERS

BOARD APPROVED THE NCDOT REQUEST FOR THE ABANDONMENT OF 0.16 MILES OF SR 1214 RESOLUTION

This item was to consider adopting a resolution to allow the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to abandon 0.16 miles of SR 1214 (Roycroft Rd.) from the state-maintained secondary road system.

Senior Transportation Planner Justin Jorgensen explained that the Division 5, District 2 Office, of NCDOT was requesting that a 0.16 mile portion of SR 1214 (Roycroft Rd.) be abandoned from the state-maintained secondary road system. The road in question is on the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) property and was split in half during construction of I-85 and then further shortened by the construction of Falls Lake. NCDOT has been in touch with USACE and they are in favor of the abandonment.

After clarification that there are no residences on the road and it is abandoned, the Board took action.

Motioned by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Resolution: *North Carolina Department of Transportation Request for Abandoning a Portion of Roycroft Road from the State Maintained Secondary Road System*

Resolution

North Carolina State Department of Transportation Request for Abandoning a Portion of Roycroft Road 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 0.16 miles of SR 1214 (Roycroft Road) beyond the United States Army Corps of Engineers property boundary: 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.

PURCHASING

BOARD APPROVED THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BACKUP RECORDER

This item was to consider approving the purchase of a new voice log recorder to be installed at our back-up emergency communications center.

Emergency Communications Director Trent Brummitt explained that this request was to use 911 restricted funds to purchase a new voice log recorder for our back-up emergency communications center. The current recorder was installed in 2017 and the 911 board recommends replacement every three years. This recorder allows voice logs to be pulled for criminal cases, quality assurance, and training purposes. This recorder is also required by 09 NCAC 06C .0207 section (c). He noted that this is fully covered by the emergency system telephone fund and on state contract.

Motioned by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of a voice log recorder for the Backup Center from Carolina Recording Systems from state contract in the amount of \$43,565.00 using E-911 restricted funding.

SHERIFF MATTERS

NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNORS HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

The Granville County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) requested that the Board adopt the resolution and approve this application with the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP). It was noted that the document will have Sheriff Robert Fountain as the agency authorizing signature.

Sheriff Fountain made comments and then noted that the Board has identified that Kevin Buster as been identified as the Region 4 Coordinator. He explained that the GCSP promotes traffic safety awareness and works to reduce the number of traffic crashes and fatalities in North Carolina. The goals are accomplished in two ways, through grant funding opportunities and conducting highway safety initiatives each year. He then explained that the GCSO has seen an increase in traffic accidents caused by speeding and driving while impaired. The GCSO will apply to receive up to \$25,000 for fiscal year 2023 to promote regional law enforcement engagement and increase participation in GHSP highway traffic safety efforts. The grant funds will be utilized for training, purchasing equipment, and to coordinate enforcement strategy meetings. The goal is to increase visibility and enforcement efforts on the major roadways in Granville County to reduce serious injury and fatalities.

Board members asked questions about information in the grant application, enforcement of littering matters, accident reports, and others. Sheriff Fountain presented the Board with a work chart when asked about the number of sworn officers. After clarification, the Board then took action.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Timothy Karan, and unanimously carried, the Board approved adopting the following resolution and application with the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program for a \$25,000 no-match grant.

North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Granville County Sheriff's Office (herein called the "Agency has completed an application contract for traffic safety funding; and that Granville County Board of Commissioners (herein called the "Governing Body") has thoroughly considered the problem identified and has reviewed the project as described in the contract;

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Granville County Board of Commissioners IN OPEN ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF, NORTH CAROLINA, THIS 3rd DAY OF April, 2023, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the project referenced above is in the best interest of the Governing Body and the general public; and

2. That Drew Cummings, County Manager, is authorized to file, on behalf of the Governing Body, an application contract in the form prescribed by the Governor's Highway Safety Program for federal funding in the amount of \$25,000 to be made to the Governing Body to assist in defraying the cost of the project described in the contract application; and
3. That the Governing Body has formally appropriated the cash contribution of \$0 as (Local Cash Appropriation) required by the project contract; and
4. That the Project Director designated in the application contract shall furnish or make arrangement for other appropriate persons to furnish such information, data, documents and reports as required by the contract, if approved, or as may be required by the Governor's Highway Safety Program; and
5. That certified copies of this resolution be included as part of the contract referenced above; and
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

BOARD APPROVED THE DECLARATION AND DONATION OF TWO SHERIFF'S OFFICE VEHICLES TO THE VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This item was to receive approval to declare surplus and donation of two older model patrol vehicles to Vance-Granville Community College (VGCC).

Sheriff Fountain explained the following request:

- The Sheriff's Office requested that the County Commissioners approve the donation of two 2014 Dodge Chargers to VGCC for utilization by the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) Academy. The purpose of the donation will be to support the BLET Academy with training scenarios by providing vehicles that are outfitted with law enforcement equipment.
- As per North Carolina General Statute 160A-274, the sale, lease, exchange, and joint use of governmental property:
 - For the purposes of this section, "governmental unit" means a city, county, school administrative unit, sanitary district, fire district, the State, or any other public district, authority, department, agency, board, commission, or institution.
 - Any governmental unit may, upon such terms and conditions as it deems wise, with or without consideration, exchange with, lease to, lease from, sell to, or purchase from any other governmental unit any interest in real or personal property.

Action under this section shall be taken by the governing body of the governmental unit.

After clarification about mileage and that the vehicles will be conveyed with a bill of sale as is with no warranty, the Board took action.

Motioned by Commissioner Timothy Karan, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, The Board approved declaring the following vehicles as surplus and approved donating them to the Vance-Granville Community College Basic Law Enforcement Training Academy (BLET) for training:

2014 Dodge Charger	VIN# 2C3CDXAT3EH121292	mileage- 142,587	\$ 7,600.00 value
2014 Dodge Charger	VIN# 2C3CDXAT9EH185918	mileage- 122,675	\$ 7,600.00 value

BOARD APPROVED THE SURPLUS AND DONATION OF SHOTGUNS TO THE STEM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chair May said that the next item was to receive approval to donate four (4) surplus shotguns that have exceeded their service life. He requested that the County Attorney include language in the bill of sale regarding liability.

Sheriff Fountain explained the following request. The Sheriff’s Office is in the process of identifying older model service weapons for surplus and upgrading the existing inventory. The four (4) shotguns proposed for transfer are approximately twenty-five years old on average and have reached their expected performance lifespan. All the weapons have been checked through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) database to ensure the accuracy of the serial number and ownership by the Sheriff’s Office (refer to the attachment for a detailed list of the firearm type and serial number). Additionally, federal asset forfeiture funds were not used to purchase the surplus shotguns.

- The Sheriff’s Office is requesting that the County donate four (4) surplus shotguns to the Stem Police Department (PD) for official use. A memorandum of transfer will be executed between the Sheriff’s Office and the Stem Police Department (PD) detailing the weapons to be transferred. Additionally, the memo will state that the Stem PD will assume full responsibility for the functionality of the weapons upon transfer. The donation meets the statutory requirements stated in North Carolina General Statute 160A-274.
- As per North Carolina General Statute 160A-274, the sale, lease, exchange, and joint use of governmental property:
 - For the purposes of this section, "governmental unit" means a city, county, school administrative unit, sanitary district, fire district, the State, or any other public district, authority, department, agency, board, commission, or institution.
 - Any governmental unit may, upon such terms and conditions as it deems wise, with or without consideration, exchange with, lease to, lease from, sell to, or purchase from any other governmental unit any interest in real or personal property.
 - Action under this section shall be taken by the governing body of the governmental unit.

Motioned by Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved declaring the following shotguns as surplus and approved donating them to the Stem Police Department:

Mossberg	12 gauge	Serial Number: L048772	\$125.00 value
Mossberg	12 gauge	Serial Number: MV59104G	\$125.00 value
Mossberg	12 gauge	Serial Number: MV57996G	\$125.00 value
Winchester	12 gauge	Serial Number: N1123340	\$125.00 value

BOARD APPROVED THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS TO PURCHASE FIREARMS AND TACTICAL EQUIPMENT

The next item was a request for approval for the purchase of firearms and supporting tactical equipment for the Granville County Sheriff's Office to replace the existing inventory. The request was to expend \$83,377.67 in U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) asset forfeiture funds to purchase firearms and tactical equipment from Lawmen’s supply company. Chair May noted that the appropriate processes as required have been followed for this purchase . He clarified that the Board is voting on the availability of funds and not on the type of firearms that the Sheriff may be purchasing or not purchasing.

Sheriff Fountain explained that they are going through a transition process and want to have the proper gear and equipment to do their job and safety is their number one priority. The requested funding will replace older model AR-15 rifles which were last purchased in February 2015. The acquisition of updated firearms from a reputable manufacturer will provide the Sheriff’s Office with a reliable weapons system that deputies can have confidence in a worst-case scenario. This request will also include four (4) semi-auto and six (6) auto 9mm sub-guns. These weapons systems will be outfitted with supporting tactical accompaniments to include flashlights, sight optics, and magazines.

The following information was provided in the agenda. The FBI’s statistics for law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty from 2016 showed that 40% of the officers were murdered by suspects with long guns. Additionally, in 2022, AR-15 style weapons accounted for the deaths of over 36 innocent people in mass shootings in the United States. The ability of the Sheriff’s Office to respond to critical incidents from the patrol deputy to a tactical team will rely on the office’s ability to deploy equipment to meet the highest level of threat. Most of the time it will be the first deputy on the scene who must deal with an active shooter in a deadly force encounter. It is essential that each Granville County Deputy is properly equipped to immediately respond to a critical incident. As the Sheriff’s Office moves to refit its weapons inventory, it is important to know that the purpose of this acquisition is to provide the capability to meet the most serious threats posed by violent offenders. Shoulder fired rifles possessed by felons will outperform handgun rounds and will penetrate police issued body armor. Conversely, violent offenders are more often wearing body armor making it more difficult for a handgun round to stop the threat. This weapons acquisition will afford the Sheriff’s Office with the necessary tactical equipment to provide public safety to the citizens of Granville County. Additionally, it will be the policy of the Sheriff’s Office to meet the training requirements to safely deploy the requested firearms and to continue to maintain a superior level of proficiency.

Consultant Rob Bailess explained the process of working with the Department of Justice on this matter.

After questions and clarifications about standardizing the type of guns and ammunition, process of disposing of guns, certification of Chief Deputies, and process for a former deputy to buy/receive his service weapon, the Board took action

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the availability of the funds for the Sheriff to purchase the following firearms and tactical equipment in the amount of \$83,377.67, utilizing the Sheriff’s Office DOJ asset forfeiture account:

20	Streamlight Illumination	\$ 2,719.40
20	M-LOK Aluminum Rail Attachments	\$ 379.80
3	Shipping	\$ 14.95
40	Sig Sauer WRM400 16 Inch 5.56 Semi-Auto Rifle	\$ 38,720.00
10	Sig Sauer WRM400 11.5 Inch 5.56 Semi-Auto Rifle	\$ 10,130.00
4	Sig Sauer WRMPX 4.5 Inch 9mm Semi-Auto Sub Gun	\$ 6,640.00
6	Sig Sauer WRMPX 4.5 Inch 9mm Auto Sub Gun	\$ 11,346.00
10	Sig Sauer 9mm 35 capacity Magazine	\$ 380.00
60	Sig Sauer ROMEO5 Compact Red Dot Sight 1x20mm	\$ 7,775.40
	Subtotal	\$78,105.55
	Tax	\$ 5,272.12
	Total	\$83,377.67

SOLID WASTE MATTERS

BOARD APPROVED THE AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION OF THE LANDFILL OPERATIONS CONTRACT

Environmental Programs Director Jason Falls requested approval for a 14-month contract extension and price increase to Huff Soil Conservation, Inc. for continued operations at the Granville County Municipal

Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill through fiscal year 2023-2024. The request was to also authorize the County Attorney to draft this contract amendment and extension and to authorize the County Manager to execute it.

BACKGROUND:

The current landfill operations contract operated by Huff Soil Conservation, Inc. expires on April 30, 2023. County Staff and the County Attorney met with Mr. Winfred Huff and his accountant on February 10, 2023, to discuss a contract extension/price increase for continued landfill operations. As explained by Mr. Huff and his accountant; within the last couple of years the contractor has experienced significant price increases in labor, equipment parts, and equipment purchase. Escalating equipment costs and documentation were presented to staff for review and discussion.

Huff Soil Conservation, Inc has been the contractor for the landfill for the last four decades through various contract revisions and extensions. The contract covers all landfill work at the MSW Landfill including receipt/compaction/disposal/covering of 43,000 tons of waste/year. Other functions of this contract include but are not limited to: grading, dirt/rock hauling, stockpiling/loading of tires and scrap metal, and yard waste recycling management. A a copy of the current contract requirements were included in the agenda packet and below is a table showing the current and proposed price increase after negotiations with Huff Soil Conservation:

JOB FUNCTION	CURRENT	*REQUESTED
Landfill Operations	\$62,120.00/month	\$120,000.00/month
Scrap Tire Stockpile/Loading	\$1,000.00/month	\$2,500.00/month

**Note: Represents a 14 month extended option; new contract/vendor to be in place by July 1, 2024.*

County Staff met with the Solid Waste Subcommittee (Commissioners Jay and Williford) on March 21, 2023, to discuss this requested contract extension and price increase from Huff Soil Conservation. County staff explained that the proposed price increase is in the market range for this type of work and trash volume. Upon review and discussions, the subcommittee recommended extending the contract and requested increases for the 14 months. The extended contract will expire on June 30, 2024. In the meantime, staff will work with the County’s engineering firm during fiscal year 2023-2024 to look at landfill operation alternatives to be in place by July 1, 2024. Huff’s Soil has provided a competitive rate and service to Granville County for many years. Staff appreciates his service for all these years.

After confirming that funding is in the budget and update on the process to bid project out, the Board took action.

Motioned by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved a 14-month contract extension and price increase with Huff Soil Conservation, Inc. for landfill operations at the Granville County Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill and directed the County Attorney to draft an addendum or new contract at the cost of \$120,000 per month for landfill operations and \$2,500 per month for scrap tire stockpile/loading to be executed by both parties to be in effect by May 1, 2023.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

BOARD APPROVED THE AWARD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT (\$154,400) FOR TRIANGLE NORTH BUSINESS PARK TO MCGILL ASSOCIATES

Development Services Director Scott Phillips requested consideration to award a fixed-price service contract in the amount of \$154,400 for Engineering Services required for the Triangle North Business Park and to authorize the County Manager to execute this contract.

Development Services Director Phillips explained that in August of 2019, Granville County retained McGill Associates, P.A. to perform evaluation and design services for the water and sewer infrastructure required for Triangle North Park’s development. As a result of this work a 16” diameter water service supply system was designed and permitted for construction. He noted that this request is to update the prior service agreement needed to carry the waterline project forward.

After clarification about funding and that the project will start immediately and take about six months to complete, the Board took action.

Motioned by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board approved awarding a fixed-price Engineering Service Contract to McGill Associates, PA for an amount not to exceed \$154,400.00 for the following tasks at Triangle North Business Park:

- Task 3A – Survey and Easement Platting; Work needed for easements along Tabbs Creek Road. \$26,800.00
- Task 5 – Bidding and Construction Award; Services for final project design review, advertising and communication with potential bidders, conducting bid opening and preparing award recommendation. \$14,000.00
- Task 6 – Construction Administration; Organize and lead monthly project meetings, process and approve shop drawings and field related information request, observe work in progress, confirm adherence to project plans and specifications, verify field testing and start up, prepare as-built data and survey, and process record drawings for appropriate regulatory agencies. \$113,600.00

APPOINTMENTS

BOARD APPROVED APPOINTMENT TO THE GRANVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Motioned by Commissioner Robert Williford, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Victoria Bradsher (District 2) to the Granville County Board of Adjustment.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

County Manager Cummings had no report.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

UPDATE ON COMPLIANCE REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR EQUITABLE SHARING PROGRAM AND OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS CONTRACTS

County Attorney Wrenn reported that he and the County Manager are working with the Finance Director and audit firm to bring a recommendation for an RFP (request for proposal) to select a financial auditing firm for procedures for reviewing federal grants and contracts. This is to protect the County Manager and Sheriff when they sign documents to be sure we are in compliance.

UPDATE ON AMBULANCE FRANCHISE

When asked, County Attorney Wrenn reported that he hoped to have the ambulance franchise matter on the next agenda.

BOARD PRESENTATIONS

Vice Chair Karan talked about the importance of our volunteers. He noted that he attended a Paws for a Cause event sponsored by the Granville County Humane Society. He talked about the Granville County Animal Shelter and the importance of volunteers. He reported that he is seeking volunteers from District 6 to serve on the Economic Development Advisory Committee and the Human Relations Commission and encouraged citizens to get involved.

Commissioner Gooch noted that the Board cannot fix everything, has limited power, and exercises fiscal control with county funds. He thanked everyone for what they do and for those in attendance.

Commissioner Jay reported that he and the County Manager attended Innovate 2023, an economic summit in Littleton and that Granville County was well represented. He mentioned a old school in Littleton that was turned into an art facility. He also reported that he attended a celebration in Person County for two Cooperative Extension employees with 20 years of service.

DURING PRESENTATIONS, BOARD APPROVED SPONSORSHIP FOR CRIME STOPPERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Commissioner Jay announced the upcoming Crime Stoppers golf tournament and requested that the Board sponsor the event. It was announced that the sponsorship was \$500, but it was only \$100.

Motioned by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Tony W. Cozart, and unanimously carried, the Board approved a \$100 hole sponsorship for the Granville County Crime Stoppers Golf Tournament on May 18, 2023 from Commissioner Jay's discretionary account.

BOARD RECOGNIZED CLERK TO THE BOARD DEBRA WEARY

The Board recognized Clerk Debra Weary for her birthday, thanked her for her service, and presented her with a plant and card.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUE

Commissioner Hinman reported that she attended the dedication of the outdoor musical instruments at the Thornton Library today.

Commissioner Cozart reported that the Antioch Volunteer Fire Department had a steak dinner fundraising event on Friday, noted it was delicious, and the event was well organized. He thanked Antioch Fire Department and all the others for their service. He reported that he was happy to see that additional teacher assistants are in the North Carolina House budget and hopes it will pass. He said he went to the Granville Athletic Park with his family and mentioned that he was reminded of sacrifices that were made to make that park successful.

Chair May thanked citizens for attending the meeting and said he welcomed comments and the robust discussion. He thanked Sheriff Fountain for attending and said he looks forward to positive results for not just our deputies but for all county employees. He reported that he met with Senator Mary Wills Bode, Representative Frank Sossamon and Representative Matthew Winslow at the legislature and is hopeful for things that will come this way and thanked County Attorney Wrenn and County Manager Cummings for behind the scenes work on matters. He talked about a major project on Highway 56 and thanked Planning Department staff for their work; reported on an upcoming meeting with school liaisons and his hopes to meet jointly with the Board of Education on the budget; and mentioned work on funding for additional School Resources Officers (SROs) for each school He explained the make-up of the Granville County Fire Commission and its role, talked about funding from the fire district tax, and recognized Fire Commission Leroy Anderson and Chief David Cottrell in attendance and asked them to stand. He encouraged those in attendance to come back to the next meeting and encouraged people to voice their opinions on matters. He reported that the county is working on upfitting the Expo Center with microphones and a recording system. He talked about the work of the Board and that each one cares deeply and wants to move Granville County forward.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Commissioner Hinman requested a closed session for personnel matters.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sue Hinman, seconded by Commissioner Robert Williford, and unanimously carried, the Board went into closed session as allowed by N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (6) for personnel matters.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Russ May, seconded by Commissioner Zelodis Jay, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

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