

Monday, October 4, 2021
Regular Meeting

The Beaufort County Board of Commissioner met in regular session Monday, October 4, 2021, at 5:30 PM, in the Commissioners Boardroom located at 136 W. 2nd Street in Washington, NC with the following present:

Commissioners Present

Chairman Frankie Waters
Vice-Chairman Jerry Langley
Commissioner Ed Booth
Commissioner Stan Deatherage
Commissioner John Rebholz
Commissioner Hood Richardson
Commissioner Randy Walker

Staff Present

Brian Alligood, County Manager
David Francisco, County Attorney
Katie Mosher, Clerk to the Board
Anita Radcliffe, Chief Finance Officer

Chairman Waters welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Vice-Chairman Langley offered the invocation and Commissioner Rebholz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conflict of Interest Statement

Chairman Waters asked if anyone had a conflict of interest this evening. No one spoke.

Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Waters said on the approval of the agenda I'm going to move the School Resource Officer Update to item #2 under items for presentation, right after Mr. Madson does his, in order to accommodate the speaker.

Motion: Vice-Chairman Langley motioned to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Rebholz seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comments

No one asked to speak.

Legislative Updates

No one asked to speak.

Items for Consent

1. Budget Amendment, DSS
2. Health Fee Revision
3. Tax Collector Refunds Over \$100
4. Tax Assessor Refunds Over \$100
5. Surplus, Clerk of Court
6. Surplus, Public Works
7. Economic Development Advisory Committee Appointment

8. Board of Health Reappointments
9. Minutes Approval

Chairman Waters said he wants to pull Item #4 for discussion by our Tax Assessor. He asked if there were any other items that needed to be pulled. No one spoke.

Motion: Commissioner Walker motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Rebholz seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Rebholz
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

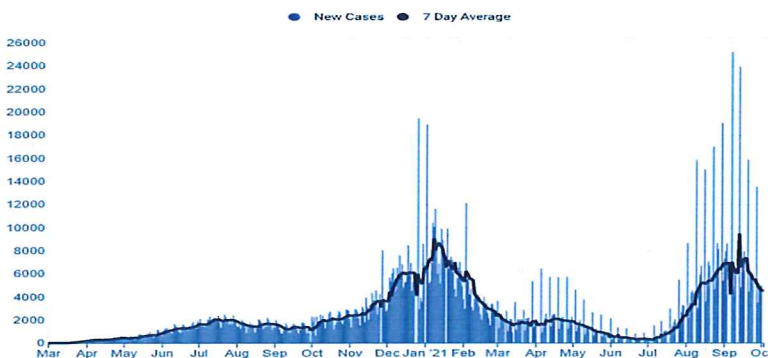
Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson

See Addendum 1

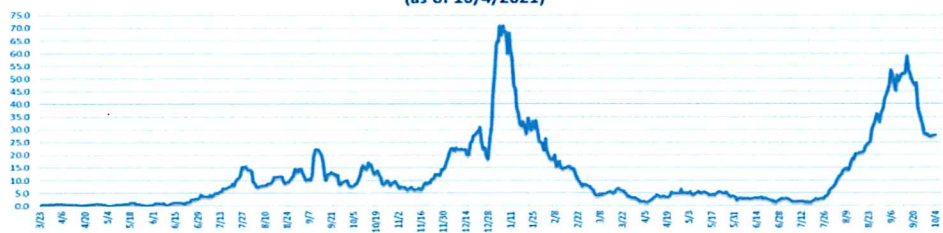
Covid – 19 Update

Mr. James Madson said 559 days since the first case of Covid and here we are, still going at it a year and a half later and I'm here to present some of the numbers. He then gave the following presentation:

North Carolina 1.4 Million

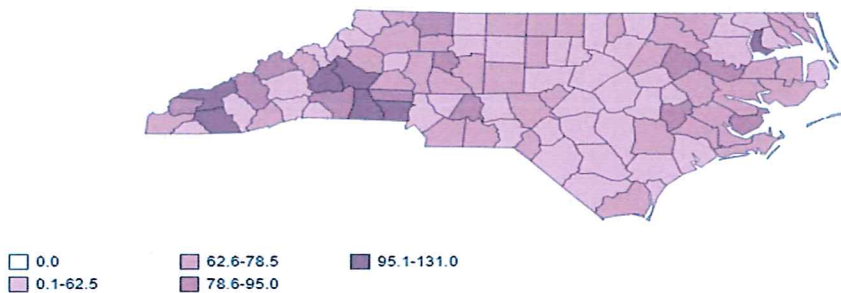


Beaufort County 7 day average case count
(as of 10/4/2021)



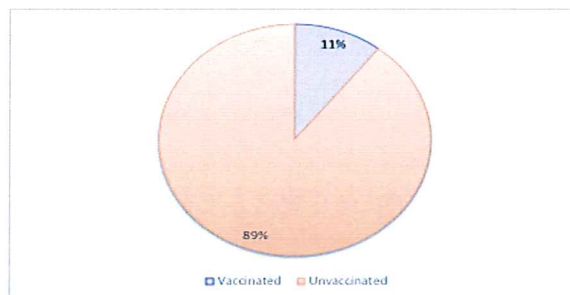
Case counts

- 6,966 total cases recorded
- 394 known active cases currently
- 15 in Hospital
- 1 person on a ventilator
- 27.9 cases per day (7-day average)

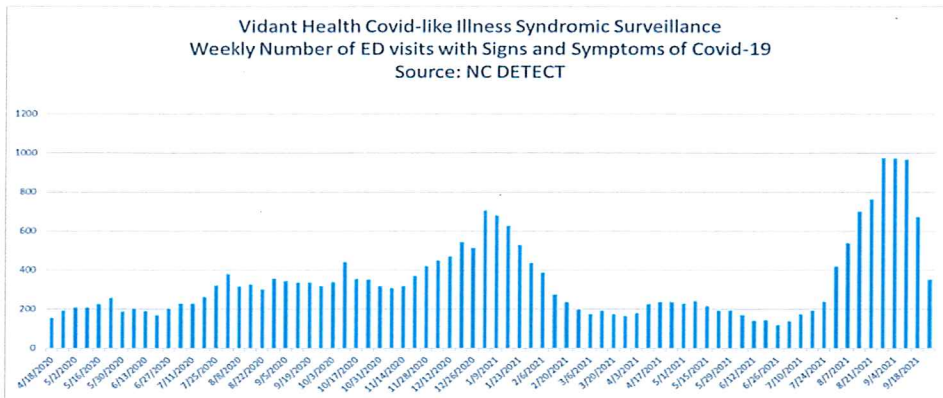


Last Two Weeks per 10,000 population
73.0 in Beaufort County

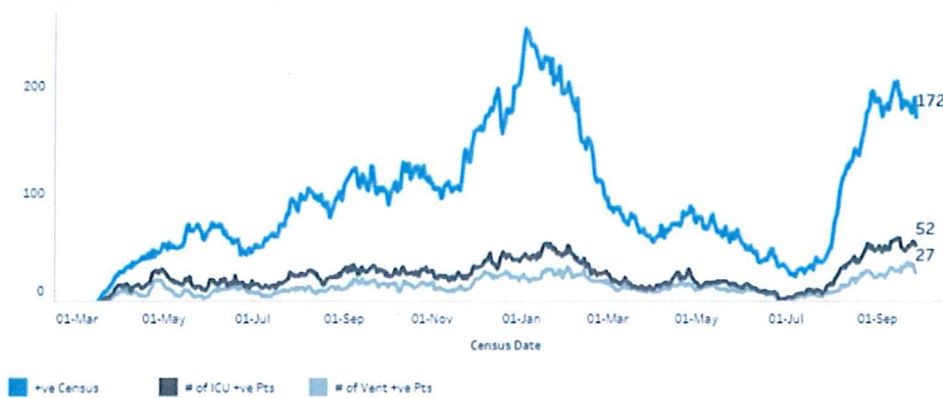
Positive
COVID-19
cases from
June 1 to
October 4,
2021



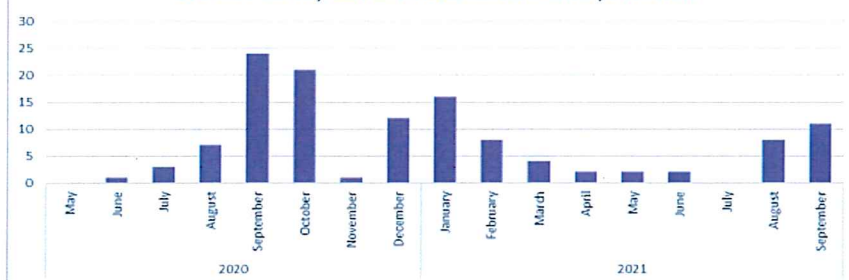
N = 2,302



Daily Census - IP, ICU, Vent



Beaufort County COVID-19 Associated Deaths per Month



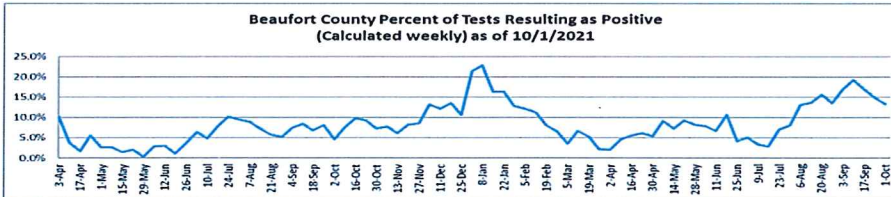
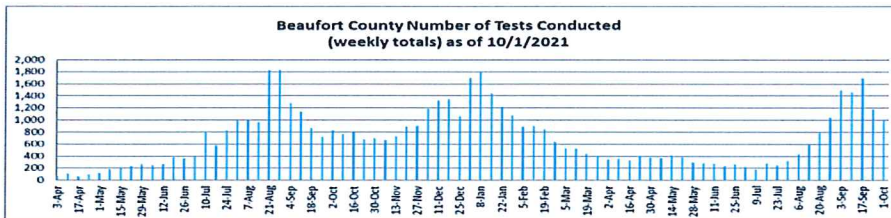
Average
Age of
Death

Prior to June 2021
(101)

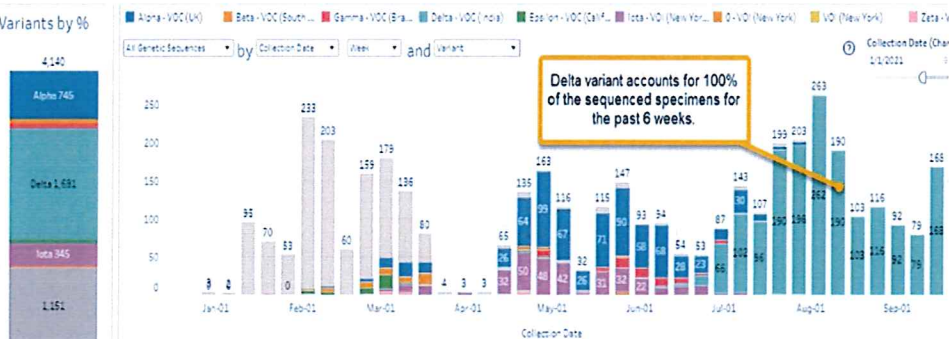
77.1 years

June to today (21)

67.4 years



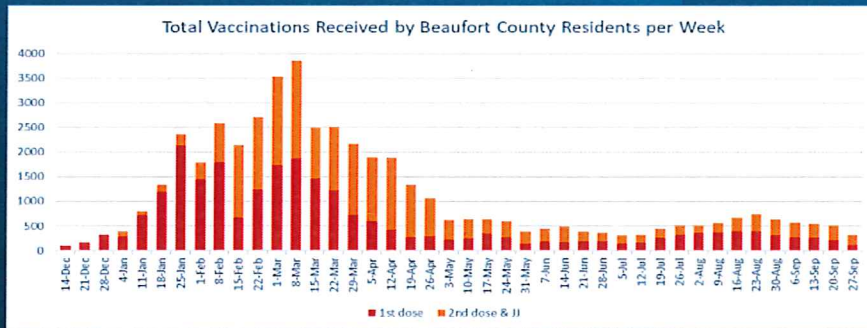
Variants by %



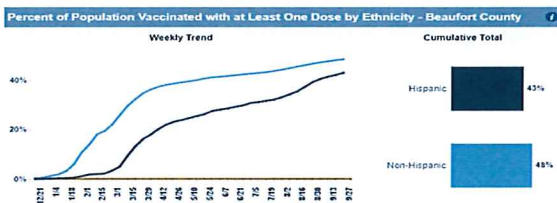
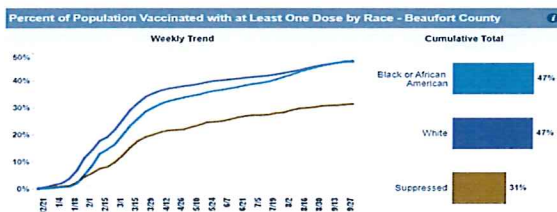
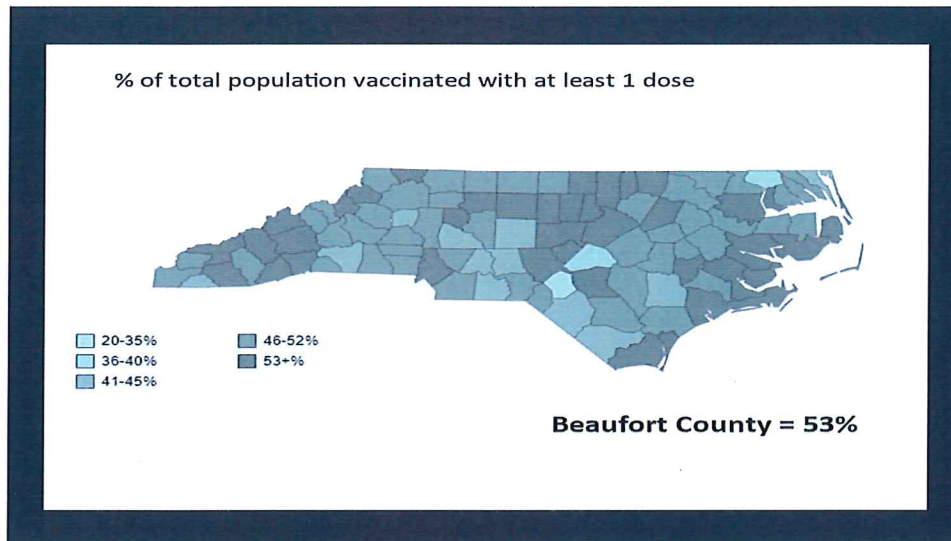
Vidant area testing

Test Sites

- Testing done at Health Department every workday from 7:30 to 11:00 (Vendor)
- New site to open October 18th at 810 Hackney Ave, Washington— 8:00 to 5:00 M-F (Vendor)
- If transportation needed, call BATS by 1:00 for an appointment (252.946.5778)



Monday, October 4, 2021		Total
Beaufort County Population (NCSCHS)		47,079
Residents that are partially vaccinated against COVID-19		24,871 52.8%
Completed COVID-19 vaccine series (all vaccines)		22,874 48.6%
Total Doses administered		47,745
Population over 65 years of age (NCSCHS)		11,281
Over 65 that have received first dose of COVID-19 vaccine		10,282 91.1%
Over 65 that have completed series		9,875 87.5%
Adult Population (18 and older)		37,758
Partially vaccinated		23,965 63.5%
Fully vaccinated		22,150 58.7%
12-17 year olds vaccinated		3,295
Partially vaccinated		906 27.5%
Fully vaccinated		724 22.0%



Vaccine Info

- Upcoming approvals
- Health Department Drive-thru
 - COVID vaccine Moderna, Pfizer, & J&J
 - Times 12:30 to 4:00
 - Monday – 1st and additional doses
 - Tuesday – 2nd and additional doses
 - Wednesday – Pfizer Boosters (starts Oct 13)
 - Thursday – Flu
 - Friday – Flu
- Preparing for Mass Vaccine Operations

Additional dose VS Booster

Differences between additional dose and Booster dose

Additional Dose	Vaccine Booster Dose
• Only for Immunocompromised people • Immune System not sufficient level with only two doses • This dose brings immune system up to sufficient level • Able to receive 28 days after 2nd dose • Only recommended for Pfizer and Moderna	• For those recommended by the CDC (65-year-old and up and high risks) • Immune system reached sufficient level with two doses • This dose "boosts" the immune system as it wanes with time • Able to receive 6 months after 2nd dose • Only recommended for Pfizer (at this time. Still waiting to hear about Moderna)

Commissioner Rebholz said the people that have been, that have had Covid, it represents about 15% of the population.

Mr. Madson said the 7,000.

Commissioner Rebholz said yes. He said those people don't get counted in any immunity numbers, do the, despite the fact that people are saying now that those who have gotten it have better immunity than those who have gotten the vaccine.

Mr. Madson said some of those people will have, yes. He said we don't count them because we don't know what their immunity status is post positive. He said the thing about being positive on a Covid test and having a systemic reaction to it, if I have Covid in my nose I might be fighting it off in my nose and that's, I never had a full systemic reaction to that. He said I might have a runny nose, runny eyes, so I don't, I'm not exposed enough for me to have a full response to that. He said now if I have Covid and I'm in bed for three to four days and I'm really sick I have build up some kind of systemic reaction to that. He said so I think that being positive for Covid versus being sick with Covid disease, having that full blown sickness, causes a variety of different immunity levels in a person. He said so I would say a person who has tested positive needs to talk to their doctor and maybe get an immunity test and then maybe the doctor can tell them their immunity level is high enough for this, but I don't get that kind of data.

Commissioner Rebholz said what's an immunity test.

Mr. Madson said it's where they look for antibodies in your system.

Commissioner Rebholz said I've got people that I know who have had two vaccines and are on the Vidant test daily deal and they've got zero anti-bodies according to the Vidant test.

Mr. Madson said I don't know, are they drawing blood.

Commissioner Rebholz said yes. He said well, they do the finger poke or whatever Vidant does.

Mr. Madson said most people that have immunity are going to have antibodies, whether it's from the vaccine or whether it's from the actual virus.

Commissioner Deatherage said let's go with, since we're talking about the antibody test, where can you get that. He said for the public's knowledge where can you get the antibody test.

Mr. Madson said I don't know. He said Vidant, I think would be the one.

Commissioner Deatherage said is that the only place.

Mr. Madson said no, I'm sure DownEast Care, other places can do it.

Chairman Waters said O'Neals is doing it.

Commissioner Deatherage said are there different antibody tests or is there just one basic test that's given and how long does it take to get your feedback.

Mr. Madson said I'm not an expert on that test, but I do know on a call that had a virologist on it he said the tests are really designed for people that have had the vaccine, so I don't know how accurate it is for people that have had Covid. He said I would imagine there are tests out there for that, I mean, we have them for other things.

Commissioner Deatherage said so if you've had the vaccine it will pick up some antibodies probably.

Mr. Madson said right.

Commissioner Deatherage said are the vaccinations truly shielding those vaccinated since Delta is the only variant that's killing folks now in Beaufort County.

Mr. Madson said I would think that when you look at the data, we're right at 50% vaccinated as a population. He said I'm just using that number, if the vaccine was not working then you would expect that half our cases that have come since June 1st would be vaccinated, and the other half would be unvaccinated because if it wasn't working it would be even numbers. He said the fact that it's 10% versus 90% I think is an indication that the vaccine is working.

Commissioner Deatherage said so the variable is 10/90.

Mr. Madson said in Beaufort County, since June 1st, 10% of our cases have been vaccinated and 90% have not.

Commissioner Deatherage said there's been enough cases that the number is a pretty real number I would think.

Mr. Madson said right. He said I think 2,000 cases over three months or whatever it's been is a good indication.

Commissioner Deatherage said so the vaccine is about 90% effective.

Mr. Madson said I don't know that you could interpret it as 90% effective because you have to know who were exposed with the vaccine and how many people were exposed who weren't vaccinated so not knowing that number.

Commissioner Deatherage said oh, I thought that was a vaccine number, the 90/10.

Mr. Madson said but assuming community spread then I would expect if it did not work 50% would be vaccinated and 50% would be unvaccinated.

Commissioner Deatherage said that would be a 95/5 split wouldn't it if you're using that number, using the 50/50.

Mr. Madson said what I'm saying is if 50% of us are vaccinated and 50% of us are unvaccinated and something spread through I would expect half of us to be sick and half of us to be sick as well so I would just expect 50/50 on the cases. He said the fact that it's not 50/50 but 90/10 tells me the vaccination is working. He said not 100% because there are still 10% that are cases. He said so what I was going to say was you saw the mortality rate went down from 2% to 0.9%. He said I'm theorizing that it's because the vaccine in the elderly population has stopped some of those cases. He said so that, to me, is evidence that the vaccine is working. He said hospitalization rates are very similar, that 90/10 number so I would expect it to be 50/50 if it wasn't working so I would think there's a lot of data that is showing the vaccine works. He said I've got trust in the vaccine from the stats that I've been looking at.

Commissioner Deatherage said is the Biden vaccine mandate to fire unvaccinated health care workers affecting Beaufort County yet.

Mr. Alligood said if I could speak to that. He said there are two issues that relate to that. He said first is the federal OSHA, the executive order relating to private employers who have 100 or more employees. He said there was a vaccine mandate and testing option, a weekly testing option. He said that is being put through under a federal OSHA rules, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. He said normally, or in other states, local governments are not governed by federal OSHA. He said the relationship that North Carolina has with federal OSHA is that North Carolina enforces those rules under a North Carolina program, but they are required to provide at least whatever level the federal level is. He said they can't be less than what the federal level is so according to that, so in general local governments are covered by federal OSHA but it's done through the State of North Carolina. He said so we are waiting for the rule that is supposed to come out, hopefully in October from Federal OSHA, as to how that all lays out then we will wait for the North Carolina interpretation of that but if all things are the way they are as we understand them from what we've read we would be considered in that group since we have more than 100 employees so it would require a vaccine mandate with a weekly testing option. He said the second piece that's come out of the federal government is an executive order that reads if you are a provider who receives Medicare funds you are required to provide, you're required a vaccine mandate and there is no testing option, you must be vaccinated if you receive Medicare funds. He said the assumption would be that if you don't then they're going to take away your Medicare funds. He said now, there are programs that the County administers that receives Medicare funding. He said DSS, Health Department, EMS. He said now currently those rules are still being drafted as well and we don't know how that applies because as you read the rules, in one sentence it says buildings, providers and other things and in another sentence it says something different so we don't know until that rule comes down what would be considered providers under that mandate. He said it took them six months to get the original rule out that applied to health care providers so we don't know when that one is coming out but those are two federal mandates that are on our radar that we need to look at. He said in general the County employees as a whole are fairly well vaccinated. He said we're very pleased with that. He said we do have a couple of departments that are not as strong as the rest of the County and we're hoping they'll be able to step up a little bit. He said that's what I have to say about those two items.

Commissioner Deatherage said yeah, but I'm mostly speaking to health care workers that are private, like Vidant.

Mr. Madson said I don't know the status of their, I mean, I only know that they put out in their press release that they were required to have it. He said I don't know if it's been challenged.

Commissioner Deatherage said one more question. He said how many illegal immigrants are getting Covid and were they vaccinated.

Mr. Madson said I wouldn't know. He said I don't ask for legal status.

Commissioner Deatherage said you don't ask so we're not going to know that.

Mr. Madson said we get an address from them, but we don't verify that.

Commissioner Deatherage said I think it's a grand hypocrisy that we have an open boarder to the south with 20% to 30% of people coming over the boarder having Covid while the northern border remains closed while they're going to be firing or fining health care groups who have health care workers who are not vaccinated who have been around Covid for two years now who have built up natural immunities. He said I find it a grand hypocrisy and I'd like to state that.

Chairman said talking about the additional and the booster, if you've had the Moderna, two, to get the Pfizer booster or the additional Moderna.

Mr. Madson said the state has said to wait for the Moderna, that there's not enough evidence or studies that show getting the Pfizer after two Moderna's is effective. He said I don't think it's going to hurt anything but at the Health Department we need to follow the guidelines of the state when it comes to the recommendations for the vaccinations. He said so if you've received Moderna you should receive the Moderna booster. He said if you received the Pfizer you should get the Pfizer booster.

Chairman Waters said you shouldn't mix them.

Mr. Madson said you should not mix them.

Chairman Waters said okay, I misunderstood you a few minutes ago.

SRO Update

Commissioner Walker said we're into the school year and with the new SRO situation I thought it important to touch on that. He said some people might not even know what's going on here with the new officers that are in the schools and the new SUV's that are around with Allied Universal on there so a lot of folks may not know what that means. He said having voted for this thing my investigation I didn't go to the superintendent and didn't go to the Board of Education Chair or anybody to ask my questions because I know they wouldn't sugar coat it, but I didn't want to give them the chance. He said so I went down and talked to teachers, I went down to where the troops are in the mud, and I can't find anybody that has a bad word to say about this. He said they had sort of a baptism by fire the other day with the bomb threat, but I think it went pretty well. He said there's the SUV that you see at the schools, and they park there on the weekends, they don't drive them home. He said there's a shot of one of the SRO's playing, he's out there winning the hearts and minds of not only the students but of the staff. He said there's one at Southside. He said here he is as a hall monitor. He said this was something that wasn't allowed with the original deputies, and I just think it's an important part of school security, hall monitoring, so this is a shot of him monitoring the halls. He said another thing was traffic, that's another good thing. He said these folks, the principals, teachers, everybody say we call these folks and they come and before there were days when they were missing, or they were out on another call or something. He said there he is standing at the door doing fist bumps. He said I brought in the, he's leading this on with Allied Security, the superintendent is here and if you have any questions ask them but like I said, in my little investigation this thing is going well. He said this is some good news I'm bringing you.

Mr. Cheeseman said it gives me great pleasure to introduce Chief Robert Qualkenbush from Allied Security and also Captain Darren Hall and they're going to give you an update. He said first and foremost I'd like to thank Commissioner Walker for affording us the opportunity to come here this evening. He said we've been really excited to see the services we're receiving on our campuses. He said from start to finish, to early sunrise to darkness sometimes and as Commissioner Walker has said tremendous relationships are being built right now, tremendous response that we're having and we're very excited about this professional relationship that we have and we're looking forward to continuing that over time.

Chief Robert Qualkenbush said it's my pleasure to meet each and every one of you and to be here today and to answer some questions and at least give some information about what we're doing here. He said my name is Robert Qualkenbush, I'm the Chief of Police for Allied Universal Special Police. He said we're the largest contract special police agency in the state of North Carolina with have approximately 173 sworn law enforcement officers, servicing 16 separate locations across the state. He said most of those government organizations. He said I'm going to talk specifically about the program here in Beaufort County. He said we're happy to say that we are fully staffed here with all 12 locations for schools being covered by a school resource officer, including one supervisor who fills in during call-offs, sick days, assistance support and supervision. He said that would be Captain Darren Hall, formerly of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office and a school resource officer here at one of the locals. He said I want to say the officers remain on campus during school hours and training is covered during teacher workdays, school breaks and other breaks so it's not done during school time periods. He said those officers are responsible to the principals and administrative staff in the Beaufort County School system as a dedicated resource. He said summer school and summer session will be covered by Allied Universal Special Forces police officers, which wasn't previously done prior to us taking over this contract. He said I want to talk about officers that we've selected here. He said we wanted to choose from your local community, so we have eight current officers who either came from the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office or the Washington Police Department, so they were your incumbent officers to begin with. He said to include a ninth one who was the former Chief of the Aurora Police Department, Mr. Robbie Jones. He said he's down at Snowden, graduated from Snowden and is the school resource officer at that location. He said of the officers that we have here, on average, we have ten years of former law enforcement so they're not inexperienced law enforcement officers. He said they are vetted veteran law enforcement officers that are serving Beaufort County. He said these SRO's that I'm speaking of, most of them or some of them were already working in the schools they're now assigned to, to include Northside High School and that was a school resource officer with the Sheriff's Office. He said he is school resource officer today for that location. He said Southside's school resource officer and baseball coach, he is that school's resource officer, just to name a couple of folks. He said one of the additional services we provide outside of the regular

stuff is the events such as dances and ball games and things of that nature. He said to address the vehicles, I think that was mentioned a few minutes ago, those are flat bill rate no matter how many miles or wear and tear or whatever it is the County is not paying anything above that certain rate on that one. He said we've received a tremendous amount of positive feedback. He said I've personally spoken to many of the principals directly about their school resource officers and how the school resource officers were adjusting and providing services and gotten tremendously well received feedback and the fact that officers are out on the drop-off and pick-up lines, helping open doors and greeting parents and students, providing that interaction both inside and outside the school buildings. He said the school resource officers are a dedicated resource, they have no jurisdiction off that property, so they do not leave the property, they stay on property, and they provide that service just to Beaufort County Schools. He said so I'll leave it at that and if you have any questions I'll be happy to answer.

Vice-Chairman Langley said I don't have a question, per se but the only thing I want to say is I'm sorry you couldn't go on home this afternoon but we didn't have any doubt that you were doing what you were getting paid to do because one of the things I can honestly say is if you were not doing what you were supposed to do we would've heard it a long time ago. He said and a lot of your officers that you have, I know them, and I know their caliber, so I didn't expect anything less so that's all I wanted to say.

Chief Qualkenbush said we encourage feedback from the community, from the Commissioners, from the school administration, teachers, and parents so we can better provide the service and that's what we do. He said we're very aware that if we're not providing the service we're contracted to do that contract can be cancelled so with that being said we're very eager to respond to whatever concerns there may be and address them directly with training or direction or whatever that may be.

Commissioner Deatherage said in the rare and terrible event that someone who is deranged, who has evil intent would attack one of the schools what would be your protocol.

Chief Qualkenbush said the school resource officer is a sworn law enforcement officer who has been trained so they would directly go to the threat, there's no delay, they don't wait on a second officer or backup or assistance. He said they go and neutralize that threat.

Commissioner Deatherage said would they call for backup immediately though.

Chief Qualkenbush said they would call for back up, yes sir they would. He said they would call for backup but at the same time they do not wait, they do not delay because the lives of students, faculty and staff are in jeopardy at that point so the officers are committed to that response and they would call 911, they would radio Captain Hall and they would ask for assistance, and they would go and address is.

Commissioner Deatherage said excellent. He said would officers that are among your group that are close to that school come and aid in assistance.

Chief Qualkenbush said if they're in the area, close enough proximity they would render aid however state law does say that special police officers, as a general rule, cannot run lights and sirens between locations and that's state law so they would have to respond via normal traffic. He said we would also engage additional law enforcement agencies that are out there to assist in that. He said at the end of the day these are the communities' children and community members that are staffing those schools.

Commissioner Deatherage said are you suggesting hardened doors whenever possible, interior, and exterior.

Chief Qualkenbush said as far as the design of the schools, physical barriers, and that, I think that is the best-case scenario is the best practice at this point as far as those schools so no unlocked doorways, secured doors, entry and exit surveillance and or a moderator and keeping them locked at all times, yes sir.

Commissioner Deatherage said I would think that if you could create a hallway event where that would be the kill box for them and keep them out of classrooms that would be the best scenario, wouldn't it.

Chief Qualkenbush said it would be, but our officers are going to respond immediately to whatever threat is there.

Commissioner Walker said what I was doing here is nobody takes the time to compliment so I just did so thank you all so much for coming.

Chairman Waters said last week when you had the event did you have all the resources that you needed.

Chief Qualkenbush said I'll say this, there was a coordinated response between the Washington Police Department, the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, the State Bureau of Investigations, and our officers that worked very well together to ensure the safety and security of your faculty, your administrators and your students, your children.

SCADA Presentation

Ms. Christina Smith said while I'm pulling this up I will say I believe I'm the only person in the room, I am the mother of a daughter that attends the school that was affected this past Wednesday and as a parent I would like to express my appreciation to all people involved from the faculty to the staff to all the law enforcement agencies that responded as well as also to the students at the school. She said after speaking to some of the staff, the principal said that all of the students took the threat seriously and that they responded as they should, and she was very proud of them for doing that, so I'd like to say thank you to everyone involved in that. She said as you can tell my voice is getting a little emotional. She said there were texts back and forth from the students as they were dealing with it and some of the parents that couldn't reach their kids and that sort of thing, all involved it was a very stressful few hours there, so I'd like to say thank you again. She said I was asked to give a presentation on exactly what a SCADA system is and how it's utilized in water treatment. She said very similar to referencing what Chairman Waters just spoke of its SCADA. She said the water treatment industry is like many technical industries. She said we use our own jargon, and we love acronyms, so SCADA is an acronym that is used throughout technical industries, and I do, I use it like it's one word and most people do not know what a SCADA system is. She said but a SCADA system is an acronym for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. She said so for the past 4 to 5 years we've spoken about the SCADA system at the Beaufort County Water System and how it's starting to age out and how we have been investigating whether to upgrade or to replace and what we need to do in order to respond so I've been using this response and again, this is a reminder of exactly what it stands for. She then gave the following presentation:

Water Treatment and SCADA

- SCADA is the standard term for digital networks and computer systems that gather and analyze real-time data.
- The SCADA system is essentially a distributed computer system that is used by operations and management for process monitoring and automation.

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Ms. Smith said it's basically the brains behind the water system. She said it transmits data back and forth so that are looking at different systems and are maybe operating those different systems, it gives them information so they can make decisions. She said when I'm saying transmitting back and forth it's a combination of different hardware and different software.

Water Treatment and SCADA

- Data is displayed on a central computer screen available to technicians and managers.
- Viewing data allows managers to make informed operational and maintenance decisions.
- Employees can use the system to control equipment remotely.
- These abilities help water systems reduce costs, lower risk, and handle operations more efficiently.

Ms. Smith said that is really the heart of the matter. She said so why do we have a SCADA system, to help us reduce costs, lower risks, and operate more efficiently. She said again, for those of you that have been on the Board there was a time when Beaufort County Water system did not have a SCADA system that was as detailed as the one we have now. She then played the following video which can be viewed at: <https://youtube.be/rj44AkHmVCo>

Beaufort County Water SCADA

- Approximately 16 years old
- System is unique – combination of Honeywell, Siemens, and Wonderware. Neither Honeywell nor Siemens offer any support services because they are no longer focus on the utility industry.
- Operating Systems: Server - Server 2003. Client computers - Windows XP, which is no longer supported
- System is housed on two servers for redundancy. One server is no longer functional.
- System originally operated with 3 desk top client computers and one laptop computer. Only 1 client computer is operational. Field staff remotes in through a secure VPN to access the system. Therefore, only one field staff can operate the system at a time.
- Reporting, printing, and notification functions are no longer operational.

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Beaufort County Water SCADA

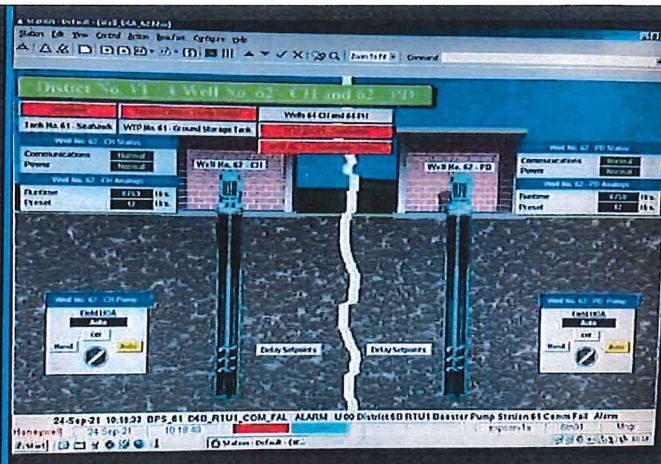
Components	Location
Server	Main Office: 2 nd Street - Washington
Client Computers	Operations Shop: Old Bath Highway - Washington SS WTP: Windmill Road – Chocowinity Edward WTP: Old Sandhill Rd – Aurora
Master SCADA Panels	10 locations throughout the county
Antennas	28 locations throughout the county

Beaufort County Water SCADA Security

- Operated through a dedicated VPN (Virtual Private Network) – a closed network
- Firewalls are in place.
- Password Protected
- **Important:** Chemical treatment is not operated remotely.

Beaufort County Water SCADA

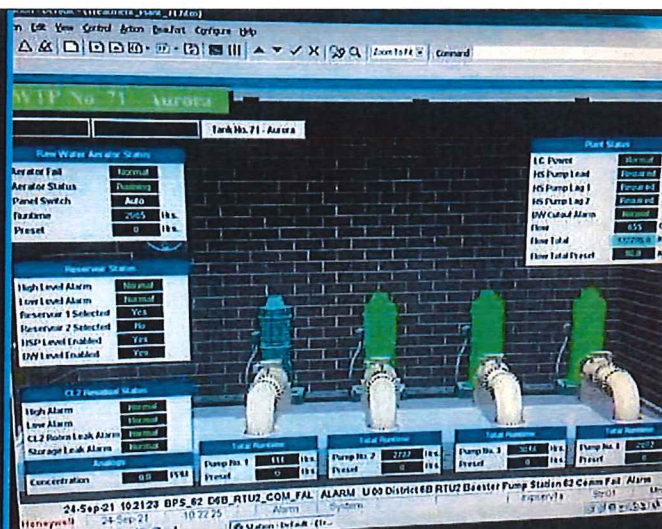
Well Site



9

Beaufort County Water SCADA

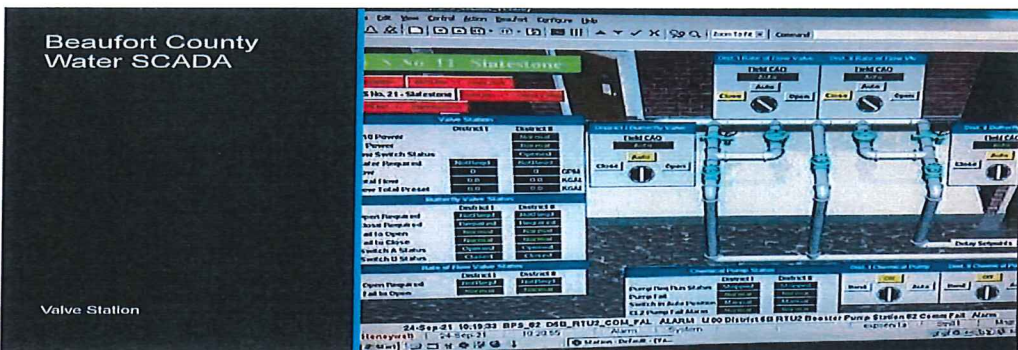
Treatment Plant



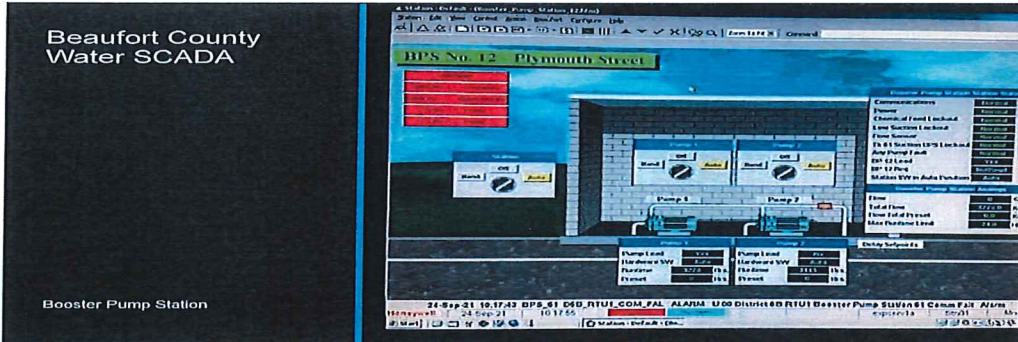
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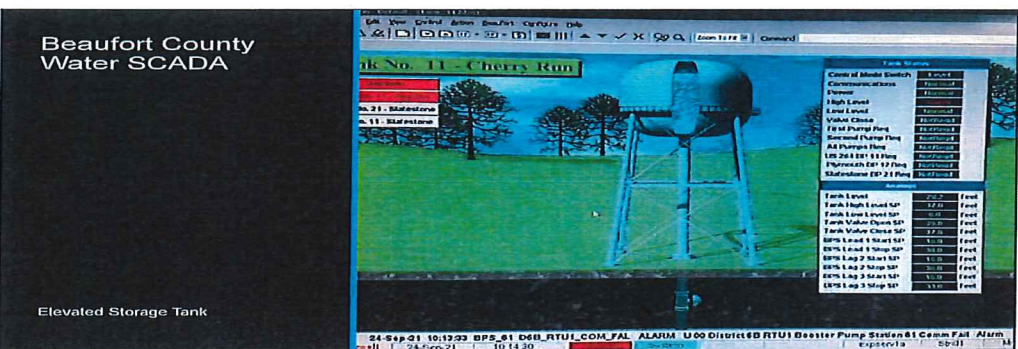
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14

Beaufort County Water SCADA

- Existing system components are no longer available. Technicians have been patching equipment and utilizing "work-arounds".
- Staff investigated and spoke with three different engineering firms regarding the upgrade of the existing SCADA system.
- Staff also spoke with various water systems to discuss how they have upgraded their system
- Custom Controls Unlimited, Inc. (CCU) from Garner, NC was highly recommended. This company is a comprehensive systems integrator. They provide on-site troubleshooting to engineering full-scale turn-key integrated systems. CCU has visited Beaufort County many times and has prepared various options for upgrades/equipment upgrades.
- *During a webinar on cybersecurity on September 22, 2021, EPA's Director of the Water Security Division, David Travers, explained that EPA could have a new cybersecurity regulation for all water utilities in a matter of months.*

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Ms. Smith said because of all the national news and the things yo've heard about we are expecting EPA to come out with some type of new regulation and we haven't really had that previously so I definitely would like to recommend that we move forward with modernizing our SCADA system. She said staff's recommendation is that you approve the replacemend of the Beaufort County Water Departments SCADA system. She said the approximate cost that we're looking at right now is \$700,000. She said that would be the full replacement cost of the new system. She said again, we have looekd at doing it in phases or putting in a partial but it appears this would be in the best interest if the funds are available. She said when we spoke about this durign the budget season we said that we would come back and talk about the possible funding, how we would fund that. She said whether we would put that out, whether this would be something we would finance or something we would look at a a later date.

Commissioner Booth said you stated that this system was obsolete and you also stated a band-aid approach, if the parts are obsolete how do you anticipate keeping this system up if you can't get parts.

Ms. Smith said I really don't. She said we have band-aided for the past many months into years but we've reached the point now, especially the radios are definitely obsolete so we've had to go in and replace. She said previously if a radio was out we could g in and replace that one radio. She said we're at the point now where if a radio goes out we're probably going to have to replace numerous radios so then we would be buying new radios for an old system.

Commissioner Booth said is this system monitored 24-hours per day.

Ms. Smith said it is not monitored by a person 24- hours per day but it operates 24-hours per day.

Commissioner Booth said what does it do besides tell water where to go. He said what else does it do. He said does it give you information about your chlorine or whatever.

Ms. Smith said we do not have any sensors that it's reading, that it's hooooked up to. She said a new, again, our existing SCADA system tells water where to go. She said that's basically it and the SCADA in the plant does do some monitoring and that type of thing but out in the system, the distribution system it does not. She said a new SCADA system would have, we would be able to do that. She said when we installed the generators our existing system, we could not put the operation of the generators on the SCADA system so that we would know when they're running but what we did was we left the 5 millionth signal space in the generator so that when we get an upgraded SCADA system we would be able to go and monitor that because right now if we have a power failure we have to put a person in a truck to go see if the generator is operating. She said with a new system it would be one of the points we would get information from and so if we have a person sitting in the water treatment plant pulling 24-horu duty he would be able to look at it and know, okay, I know the power is out but the generator is on so we would be able to monitor that.

Commissioner Booth said if the system totally went down what effect would it have on the County residents that rely on our water.

Ms. Smith said my hope is that the residents would not realize an issue however it would have a great effect on the water department personnel because they would be physically driving to every location to turn pumps on and turn pumps off so it would not be something that we would be able to sustain for a very long time.

Commissioner Booth said how many years have you been asking for this system.

Ms. Smith said we've been talking about it, it's been on the capital improvement plan and we're getting down to it.

Commissioner Walker said the company you mentioned that will be providing the new SCADA system, did you chose them by bid, did they bid.

Ms. Smith said I didn't say that they would, I said that's who's been workign with us. She said we have not put out a formal RFP but due to SCADA, there is, because of the technical nature of SCADA we can actually make selections based on what they do but we will issue a formal RFP and they will respond. She said they do have engineering as well as the manufacturing and instalation so it's more of a design build.

Commissioner Walker said a new SCADA system, will it reduce personnel, could it reduce personnel.

Ms. Smith said no, nto our existing personnel but it may delay hiring a new person.

Commissioner Richardson said do I understand that your ballpark of \$700,000 will totally replace the system with a new system.

Ms. Smith said yes sir.

Commissioner Richardson said is it going to be necessary for a new system to be hooked into the internet or will it still be an independent, free-standing system.

Ms. Smith said now I'm not the most technical savvy when it comes to the internet. She said what you determine as internet I'm not sure but the SCADA transmits data from the most far out places via radios so that goes via radio back to what we call the masters and then the masters is where DSL or internet, it transmits from those locations to the main servers here in the office so there is access to the internet involved in the systems. She siad that gets the information from the places because of the large georgraphy of this County we do not send everything via radio.

Commissioner Richardson said you say internet but could it be just telephone lines as opposed to having to use the internet.

Ms. Smith said no because telephone lines don't transmit data. She said they just do the voice but DSL, and it's not out to the public internet. She said again, it's through that VPN, that dedicated line.

Commissioner Richardson said that's what I was getting at, it's still a private network and we could build firewalls and other protections into it to make sure nobody crossed it over.

Ms. Smith said absolutely. She said actually the quote that was provided to us was including, I foret how many firewalls but absolutely, firewalls would be included. She said so the security of it would be built into it.

Mr. Erick Jennings said the simple answer is you're not going to get away from the internet. He said you're going to have to use internet. He said we used, before we had the SCADA system that we have now we used telephone lines and that was the old analog version of it. He said if you wanted to know how much water you had in your tank you had a big needle gauge that would use a telephone signal that would give you 37, that was it so when we upgraded to this system those panels went away. He said we use internet now, DSL broadband, static IP addresses with VPN on both ends and it creates a tunnel to make that information secure as it crosses the net. He said that's pretty much what you'd have to do with any sysstem that you got for now on.

Chairman Waters said this question may be for you Ms. Smith or Ms. Radcliffe, the Local Government Commission, when they sent us a letter concerning the stress analysis, the financial stress analysis, is there any component in there as it relates to capital and upgrading that this would help our score.

Ms. Smith said no sir.

Commissioner Richardson said if I understand it this thing can be paid for with ARPA funds and I think the Board should seriously consider using those funds to pay for this system because it is infrastructure. He said is that not correct Mr. Manager.

Mr. Alligood said yes.

Vice-Chairman Langley said I say amen.

Chairman Waters said would you like to make a motion.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned that the Board allocate \$700,000 to replace the SCADA system and we go out for bids to begin this work immediately. Chairman Waters seconded.

Commissioner Deatherage said would you revise your motion to up to \$700,000. He said we don't know what the bids are going to be.

Commissioner Richardson said \$700,000 is a budget number. He said we're allocating, that's what we're doing up to that. He said we're not guaranteeing that we're going to spend that amount of money, we're saying that's the budget number.

Commissioner Deatherage said okay.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned that the Board allocate \$700,000 to replace the SCADA system and we go out for bids to begin this work immediately. Chairman Waters seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Potential ARPA Funding, Public Works Projects

Ms. Smith said the next item is during the September 7th Board of Commissioners meeting a potential waterline extension to serve residential areas were presented and discussed as part of the potential ARPA projects. She said the Board of Commissioners voted to re-prioritize the extensions serving residential communities. She said they moved from #9 and #10 up to #4 and #5:

		Estimated Cost
1.	SCADA System Replacement	\$700,000
2.	Directional Drills on Hwy 99	\$285 ,000
3.	Elevated Storage Tank Mixers (4 @ \$28,000 each)	\$112 ,000
4.	Previously Designed Water Line Extensions: Rowe Ave, Swan Point Mobile Home Park, Summarize Lane, Morning Glory Lane, Strawhorne Point	\$515 ,000
5.	New Water Line Extensions: Windsong II, Windsong III, Friedman Dr., Credle Dr., Mordecai Ln., Ashton Dr., Topping Rd., Lovick Ln, Sam Graddy Rd.	\$1,620,000
6.	Upgrades to Existing System: Various residential areas are fed with small lines and do not have flushing structures	\$250,000
7.	Issues at various railroad crossings	\$75,000

8.	Elevated Storage Tank Mixers (7@\$28,000 each)	\$196 ,000
9.	Create Loop - 8,000 LF 6-inch Carrow Road/Barr Road	\$1,775,000
10.	Create Loop - 7,000 LF 6-inch Pollard Road/Cayton Road	\$1,545 ,000

Ms. Smith said so the chart that's included in the agenda packet shows that revised chart for you. She said the Board of Commissioners also requested additional information regarding the project so what you have included in your agenda packet is more information for each of those items listed. She said #1, the SCADA system, we talked about that, so we'll skip that one. She said item #2, it lists information about directional drills on Highway 99. She said it gives, also, a small map that shows that location. She said item #3 speaks to the storage tank mixers that we were proposing at \$28,000 each. She said it gives a summary of those and how they help improve water quality and help protect the condition of the tanks. She said item #4 goes into detail for each of the individual locations that were listed in the summary. She said you'll see a diagram, an aerial that shows the extensions. She said this was taken off the County GIS so also the yellow lines that you see in the photographs represent the partial lines so you're able to see the individual parcels that would be affected as well as the existing households that are currently there. She said then skipping to item #5 which are the water line extensions that had not been previously designed, again, that same information is given to you that shows the aerial photographs and the aerial locations. She said then going to #7, discusses the issues at various railroad crossings, the Old County Road and also crossings south of Chocowinity. She said item #8 addresses the storage tank mixers. She said they are the additional tanks. She said #9 and #10 are kind of lumped together. She said again, they are the waterline extensions that would provide loops on the southside of the river and again there is an aerial map that shows where those locations would be, connecting Carrow Road to Barr Road and connecting Pollard Road to Cayton Road.

Commissioner Richardson said I'll start the discussion with item #5. He said I think eliminating things that are just not justifiable may be the best way to work back to things we really want. He said item #5 was new water extension, Windsong II, Friedman Dr, Credle Dr, Mordecai, Ashton, Topping, Lovick and Sam Graddy Road. He said I'm familiar with all of these places. He said I did my own analysis this weekend and came to the same conclusion that this spreadsheet has, and that is that when you look at the cost per additional meter it is hard to justify doing these particular projects. He said Swan Pointe Mobile Home Park happens to be in here in both places but with the exception of that, I want to keep that in item #4. He said but I would say that the items in item #5 are not economically justifiable because we're talking about anywhere from \$5,000 per meter to \$20,000 or \$32,000 per meter. He said it's just not justifiable when you're collecting \$35.00 per month, \$360 a year for this. He said it takes, I believe they've got the payout years in this thing and the payouts are 21 years, 35 years and when you put interest burden on this, which is not in this, then those payouts become astronomical, so I think we ought to just take out #5.

Chairman Waters said I put together this spreadsheet and shared it with Ms. Smith this afternoon. He said a couple things you need to keep in mind is that even though, like the Swan Pointe Mobile Home, where you've got 40 customers, there's not a requirement that they go with our system when we put it in. He said they already have existing water. He said legally if we put it in can we require they go with our system.

Ms. Smith said Swan Pointe Mobile Home Park is a different scenario than the other ones that are listed in that currently that is a private water system, and the owner of that private water system would discontinue the use of their private well so those residence would lose that.

Chairman Waters said here again, when you look at the payback it's based on \$48.00 per month, average bill of \$48.00. He said that's, I mean we bring to the bottom line less than 5% so if you looked at that, that would increase the payback even on the one at eight years 20 times that.

Commissioner Richardson said Swan Pointe is different, I think as Ms. Smith said, that person happens to be a client of mine so I'm defending a client of mine, that is he built a water system of his own, he tried to give it over to the County, the County refused to take it saying it was not modern, it was out of date and all that sort of thing so a contract was entered into whereby we agreed that the County would participate with him in certain ways that I'm not even familiar with and he would ultimately build this out and give it to the County so that's the only one that's in there that, the only subdivision in there that has some justification of being different than the rest of these. He said the County has already taken over a lot of meters from him so we're getting revenue right now, a lot more revenues than the numbers that are here so when you round that out it's a designed system that's ready to go.

Chairman Waters said the purpose of doing this was to see if there were any on here and that's the only one that makes sense.

Commissioner Richardson said I agree, it's the only one that makes sense.

Chairman Water said based on the payback and here again, I want to make sure that's based on gross billing, that's not based on net.

Commissioner Richardson said I did mine this weekend and if you put an interest burden on it, like I said, these numbers that are on your sheet go astronomical.

Chairman Waters said I took our budget number that we passed, a little over \$8 million divided by 14,000 meters and that 14,000 may be a little off.

Ms. Smith said it is, that's a little low. She said we actually have more. She said at least 14,750 at the last count.

Vice-Chairman Langley said my question is for staff, with what we've done with broadband and with what we did tonight with the SCADA system, what kind of money is left.

Commissioner Richardson said \$9.2 million minus \$4.7 million.

Ms. Radcliffe said that's right. She said you've got \$4.5 million left.

Vice-Chairman Langley said that's not lump sum.

Commissioner Richardson said that's remaining undedicated money.

Chairman Waters said one of the things I think we need to keep in mind with ARPA is our general fund balance. He said when we get the audited numbers on there, in our discussions we talked about our 35% goal and we talked about anything above that, allocating it for some capital purpose. He said I think as we keep discussing these different projects that we've got the possibility of doing general fund. He said for example, what we just talked about, the \$700,000, that qualifies. He said we couldn't use general fund to do that.

Mr. Alligood said you wouldn't want to because you would be using general fund dollars for an enterprise fund. He said you really wouldn't want to do that, you could, you could loan it to the enterprise fund, but we'd rather keep those funds separate.

Chairman Waters said I wouldn't mind loaning it, but it also qualifies for bank financing. He said what I'm leading up to is when you look at solid waste and all the things that are important on the infrastructure we can address a lot of things, it's a matter, really, of whether we finance it with a loan from general fund, whether it's bank financing or whether we use ARPA money, that we can tackle them.

Commissioner Richardson said I'd rather spend Uncle Joe's money first.

Commissioner Booth said that's right. He said speaking of our money, we've got a program that we pay our water towers, it's on a rolling scale. He said to the staff, that's not considered infrastructure.

Mr. Alligood said no, that generally would not be, that's more of a maintenance fund. He said in general we've set aside funds to do those things on our own. He said the whole idea about ARPA funding was to do things that were forward looking and to not take the burden off the County or some provider that should be doing the things they should be doing. He said we ought to be looking after our own infrastructure to begin with. He said we should be funding that appropriately and if you're not your simply using money to bail yourself out and pushing it down the line, so you've structurally got to fix that first.

Monday, October 4, 2021
Regular Meeting

Commissioner Booth said the reason I ask is because after the meeting we sat in last week I don't know how in the heck we're going to spend that money.

Mr. Alligood said well to speak to that we obviously could, there's lot of opportunities to do that. He said two things for you, you have to be careful, in the meeting we had last week with the folks on ARPA you can't spend the infrastructure money on a "if you build it they will come" basis so you couldn't run a line out to a vacant industrial park and say if we put water out there someone will locate. He said ARPA said you really can't do that, there's got to be someone on the end. He said I will play devil's advocate for the Board in that if you look at the cost of our water system when you first put it in, if you looked at the return on that you might not have ever put that water system in either.

Chairman Waters said is the Board interested in adding this one development and the cost into the ARPA funding.

Commissioner Richardson said what I'm saying right now is #5 is not justifiable. He said I move that we take #5 off the list and not consider it at all and then we can whittle on some other things and yes, I think we should do what you said there because we've made the agreement with the individual, but I don't think #5 is viable at all so let's take it off the page.

Commissioner Booth said the people on the southside are asking for the same thing aren't they. He said am I correct.

Commissioner Richardson said well you've got people in subdivisions down there that are asking for things but.

Commissioner Booth said what I'm saying is they're asking for the same water lines in their subdivision.

Commissioner Richardson said \$32,000 per customer per meter in Windsong. He said that's what we're talking about. He said just people ask for it doesn't mean they get it got to be justifiable.

Commissioner Booth said I understand what you're saying but just because it's your client doesn't mean I can't ask the question.

Commissioner Richardson said I don't know what my client has got to do with what you're asking.

Commissioner Booth said you're the one that was saying it.

Commissioner Richardson said you're making this into a personality thing. He said you need to back up and we need to start talking about the finances that are involved here.

Commissioner Booth said no, what I'm saying is they need to be looked after too.

Commissioner Richardson said you just heard the Chairman say that the only thing that was justifiable, and he's on both of these lists, he's on #4 and on #5, was the Swan Pointe Mobile Home Park. He said it's the only thing in there that's justifiable, he's correct in that.

Commissioner Booth said I understand that but what I'm also saying is these people asked for some of this public money too, that's what I'm saying.

Commissioner Richardson said what I'm saying, Mr. Commissioner, is just because they ask for it doesn't mean their investment is justified. He said the people at Windsong were in here in here, we listened to them, it's \$32,000 per meter to put water into that. He said it will take 56 years to break even just on cash. He said that does not include the interest burden. He said if you put the interest burden on it, it would probably take 200 years.

Commissioner Booth said I understand but couldn't we pass that on to them, some of it.

Commissioner Richardson said I don't mind if they want to enter into, listen, there are developers, there are people who come in here and say we're willing to fund part of this if the County will fund part of it. He said I will listen to them; I don't have a bit of problem with that because that goes on all the time. He said to justify it based on economics, on item

#5 there are no economics on item #5 except the Swan Pointe project. He said that's the only economics that are in there that are justifiable.

Chairman Waters said I'm going to make a motion that we move on Swan Pointe at \$187,000.

Commissioner Rebholz said I thought we had this long list of stuff that we were going to consider in total and then make the decision on this.

Chairman Waters said well we've already done the broadband and we've already done the \$700,000. He said the things that really stick out like this does on the spreadsheet, I see no reason for us not to make a move on it. He said to at least give it to staff for planning purposes.

Commissioner Richardson said here's what your problem is though, of not moving on this stuff, is we have a time limit that we have to have this done, the Manager has cautioned us when we started this that if we didn't get on that horse and start riding this we're not going to get there. He said so the project that we know are fully justifiable we need to go ahead and fund, like the SCADA system, so it can get started so the money can get spent. He said it's a matter now of how fast we can spend money.

Commissioner Walker said for me it's low hanging fruit.

Motion: Chairman Waters motioned to approve allocating \$187,000 to provide water to Swan Pointe Mobile Home Park using ARPA money. Commissioner Walker seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Rebholz

Commissioner Booth said like Commissioner Richardson said, if these people on the southside desperately need this water we should have some kind of form to help them out. He said I don't think we should omit them. He said they're citizens of this County, if we could come up would you consider putting some money towards them.

Commissioner Richardson said yeah, I would, I said that I would, we're willing to fund part of it, we'll take a look at it and see what we can do.

Chairman Waters said see, here again this spreadsheet says that in Windsong II there's two existing homeowners with existing wells, with a deep well and when you look at that it's \$96,000. He said the potential that Commissioner Richardson talked is only six customers and that's \$32,000. He said I'm in agreement with him, if that subdivision and developer wants to pay part of the money I think we should consider that.

Commissioner Booth said I'm in agreement with you to. He said when you put the numbers out there but what I'm saying is this ARPA money is for everybody in this County. He said we can't take \$32,000 for this person and \$42,000 for that, they're citizens of this County too, they deserve water just like everybody else deserves water.

Commissioner Richardson said no, it has to be based on economics.

Commissioner Booth said we're basing it on economics.

Commissioner Richardson said yeah, it has to be.

Chairman Waters said the decision we just made on the system, gentlemen, was only \$50.00. He said the investment was only \$50.00 per meter.

Commissioner Booth said when you said \$50.00 per meter, I wasn't going to vote for it to begin with but when you said \$50.00 per meter I came to the conclusion that I was going to vote for it. He said but now we should do the same thing, and I wish you would do the same thing to help these people on the southside.

Commissioner Richardson said they need to make the presentation to us. He said it's not up to us to go to them.

Chairman Waters said here again I don't think that everything is off the table. He said all we're doing is moving the things forward that we agree on. He said I think we're all open to taking a look at the other ones that are on there.

Commissioner Deatherage said I've been a Commissioner a long time and in the past the math always mattered, and we've gotten to the point where the math doesn't matter, it's just numbers so I submit to you that eventually the math is going to matter again if there's any money at all left after this debacle that is going on for the last nine or ten months. He said we're going to have to make better decisions as Commissioners and hope that other politicians above us make better decisions going forward. He said this was a good decision.

Vice-Chairman Langley said I know that we're done with this item, but we've done, so far item 1 and item 4, what about 2 and 3, the directional drills on Highway 99, elevated storage mixers.

Chairman Waters said the floor is open for a motion.

Vice-Chairman Langley said I'll make a motion for #2 and #3.

Commissioner Richardson said let me weigh in on those for just a minute. He said #2 is a hot button item with me because it's something that needs to be done. He said we're going to have to pay it sooner or later. He said you can have a disaster where all of a sudden a leg gets cut off on the water system and you have 200 people without water. He said we need to fix those things. He said I'm not so much for elevated water tank mixers because I don't think they're needed but for the amount of money that's involved in them, and in order to get directional drills I don't have a problem supporting it. He said let's be sure that we're authorizing the water department to proceed with the spending of the money, we're not just putting something on a list.

Vice-Chairman Langley said do what you need to do.

Commissioner Rebholz said how many customers will that impact, the directional drills.

Commissioner Richardson said well it's everybody on that side of the river.

Commissioner Rebholz said I was asking her.

Commissioner Richardson said well I happen to design water systems, so I know the answer as well as she does.

Ms. Smith said I don't know the number of customers, again, if you look at the map:



Ms. Smith said one of the drills, which is a repair drill, that affects everyone from south of Pungo Shores Road down to CB Marina and Foreman Lane so I would estimate, down Foreman Lane is pretty busy, I would estimate 50 or so customers. She said then the crossing over Pungo Creek, that's actually currently a division line between districts 4, district 5 so we need to work with engineering as far as how that affects the booster pump stations and how we utilize that but again that would provide additional pressure and flow and redundancy. She said I would say 500 or so. She said it's really difficult to put a number on the area because people in the area 4, on the southside of Pungo Creek, that gives them an additional feed if there were to be a water main break further down and on the north side of Pungo Creek it gives them an additional feed. She said basically from Belhaven down to Pungo Creek.

Chairman Waters said so it's all interconnected.

Ms. Smith said yes sir.

Commissioner Richardson said these, both of these items that we're discussing in here are things that exist and have been valved off.

Ms. Smith said one of them is, the repair is. She said the other would be a new crossing.

Commissioner Rebholz said so these are all redundant systems, providing redundancy.

Ms. Smith said the first one is not, well, one is putting it back as it was originally designed because there was an issue. She said the second one would be redundancy and increasing pressure. She said again, how did I word it, increasing pressure, decreasing water age and redundancy.

Motion: Vice-Chairman Langley motioned to approve #2, \$285,000 for directional drills on Highway 99 and #3, \$112,000 for elevated storage tank mixers. Commissioner Booth seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

Commissioner Rebholz

Commissioner Booth said you can answer this, the way we're spending all this money, we've got to have all these jobs by 2024, how are you going to prioritize.

Ms. Smith said that is a legitimate concern and that's something, I went to a Water Industry meeting and throughout the state and throughout the Country, because it's finding engineers to make the design, engineers to do the design, the permitting agencies, regulatory agencies have to staff up to review the permits and do that and then we all know the state contractors and getting materials in so it will be a challenge.

Commissioner Booth said Mr. Manager, if these projects are not done by this deadline, according to what they told us last week do we really have to send this money back.

Mr. Alligood said they would have to be completed by 2026. He said they have to be obligated by 2024, which is tonight you're essentially obligating them. He said 2026 I think you could get them done and my guess is because this is a nationwide issue I would be very surprised if the funding agencies or the federal government didn't push that date a little bit once they get the magnitude of what they've asked the Country to do.

Commissioner Richardson said go to items 6 and 7. He said both of those are close to my heart, upgrade to existing system, various residential areas are fed with small lines and #7 is issues at railroad crossings. He said issues at railroad crossing can be a big deal on occasion and you need to get them while you can because railroads can be just as bureaucratic as anyone else so I would motion that we approve items 6 and 7.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned to approve #6, Upgrades to existing systems for \$250,000 and Item #7, Issues at various railroad crossings for \$75,000. Commissioner Deatherage seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Rebholz

Ms. Smith said I have one small item. She said item #4, the Rowe Avenue, that particular project, just for further information if it comes back up again, there's been some discussion made, I've spoken with the resident there, that may have been previously approved by a previous board. She said we're still trying to get documentation on that, it would've been many years ago so again, I just wanted to let you know that is a little different. She said so we are investigating that so just full disclosure that project is a little different than the others so we're investigating that to see if we can get additional information and I would bring that back to the Water Committee.

Finance Report

Ms. Radcliffe said right quick on the ARPA funds, I ran the numbers and we actually started closer with \$9.1 million instead of \$9.2 million, as I recall from memory. She said so after deducting \$4 million for broadband and all the water projects we just talked about and also the \$1.5 million for the multi-purpose building we're down to right at \$2 million remaining. She said I'll put a spreadsheet together on that so we can keep a running tally going. She said so you have in front of you for the finance presentation three sets of papers. She said the first one I'd like to start with has the legal paper attached there, that's the general fund and the front page is the TR-401G collection report and what this report is it's a tax billing and collection report from our tax office with Farragut.

ite run: 10/4/2021 10:34:23 AM

TR-401G Net Collections Report

NCPTS V4

ita as of: 10/3/2021 7:00:37 PM

port Parameters:

te Sent to Finance Start: Min - July 1, 2021

Date Sent to Finance End: Max - October 4, 2021

Abstract Type: BUS,IND,PUB,REI,RMV

x District: COUNTY

y Type: TAX

tax Year: 2021

Year For: 2021

Collapse
Districts: N

fault Sort-By: Tax Year

Grouping: Tax District, Levy Type

Fiscal Year Activity from July 1, 20XX to October 4, 2021								Activity from July 1, 2021 to October 4, 2021			
Orig. Billed Amt (\$)	Abs. Adj (\$)	Bill Releases (\$)	Disc. Levy (\$)	Net Levy (\$)	Amt Collect. (\$)	Unpaid Balance (\$)		Amt Collect. (\$)	Abs. Adj (\$)	Bill Releases (\$)	Disc. Levy (\$)
	Assessor Refunds (\$)	Net Collections (\$)	Additional Levy (\$)	Collection Fee Amt (\$)	% Coll.	% Uncoll.			Assessor Refunds (\$)	Additional Levy (\$)	
X DISTRICT: COUNTY LEVY TYPE: TAX											
21	34,063,712.76	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00	33,971,545.50	4,725,404.96	29,246,140.54	4,725,404.96	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00
		17,302.04	4,742,707.00	21,490.75	0.00	13.91 %	86.09 %			17,302.04	21,490.75
b.	34,063,712.76	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00	33,971,545.50	4,725,404.96	29,246,140.54	4,725,404.96	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00
		17,302.04	4,742,707.00	21,490.75	0.00	13.91 %	86.09 %			17,302.04	21,490.75
tal	34,063,712.76	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00	33,971,545.50	4,725,404.96	29,246,140.54	4,725,404.96	110,517.93	3,140.08	0.00
		17,302.04	4,742,707.00	21,490.75	0.00	13.91 %	86.09 %			17,302.04	21,490.75

gnature (Tax Collector)

\$ 33,971,545 2021 Levy Billing (excluding mv)
x 98.22% Collection Rate
\$ 33,366,852 Estimated 2021 Levy Collections

She said you might recall us saying several weeks back, about six weeks back that they were going to be mailed and they were mailed the second week of August. She said this report shows us the billing amount, which is highlighted there, that net levy column. She said so our net levy billed amount is the \$33.971 million for the 2021 levy. She said this excludes motor vehicles, by the way. She said so when we multiply that number by our actual billed accounts times our collection rate of 98.22% we come up with an estimated collection rate of \$33.366 million for the fiscal year. She said if you flip over to the next page of course we're interested to know how that compares with what we budgeted. She said we want to make sure that we budgeted closely because the ad valorem taxes do make up 63% of our revenue which supports all of our general fund operations. She said so when we look at that you can see that we budgeted for the 20/21 levy \$33.75 million. She said I just told you we expect to come in at \$33.366 million so we've got a slight variance. She said I say slight because when you talk about a \$383,000 difference on \$33 million it's right at 1% so pretty close there but it's a little less, we're anticipating a little less than what was budgeted. She said on the motor vehicle side we've budgeted the \$3.25 million. She said I'm expecting that to come in at least \$3.5 million so we'll make up most of that deficit on the real and personal property on the motor vehicles and so we're really close on our budgeting, so I expect we'll be fine there as far as the ad valorem taxes go budgeting actual for the year. She said next page is a look at sales tax distributions. She said we just received the information on the July sales. She said remember there's a three-month lag, so the July sales were the second highest distribution that we've ever received. She said they're \$1.1 million and you can see our highest distribution was actually the month before, the June distribution was \$1.130 million and the state, the entire state saw a huge increase in sales tax for the month of July. She said the Association, their report said statewide there was a 17% increase in the July sales tax compared to the July 2020, a year ago. She said when you look at our increase, so you're looking at the 19/20 column, that July number of \$804,000, oh, excuse me, the \$973,000 number, we had even more than an 18% increase there so still doing better than what the state is experiencing. She said below that you can see the number, this is the first distribution of the new year, so you just see the dot there at \$1 million and of course we'll be graphing that as we move along. She said any questions on the ad valorem taxes or sales tax before we move on to the expenditure side.

No one spoke.

Ms. Radcliffe said moving on to the expenditures for the general fund, on pages three and four there, we're three months into the fiscal year so we would expect, being 1/4th into the year we'd be about 25% spent on the expenditure side and of course it varies for each department but overall, you can see on the last page we're right at 25%, or 24.9% spent on the expenditure side. She said so quick review, everything looks good, everything looks reasonable there on the expenditure side. She said any questions there before we move on.

No one spoke.

Ms. Radcliffe said next you'll see your next stack there is for the Beaufort County Water Districts. She said first we have our revenues on the front page there and of course our biggest revenue for the water districts are our sales, I have those highlighted there. She said we're budgeted at \$7.6 million; we've collected the \$1.266 million and if you go over to the right that's only 16.8% and you would expect to be closer to the 25% with us being 3 months into the year but remember, we're a month behind in our billing. She said actually we've only collected for 2 months, which would be the 16% so we're right on target for sales. She said on the expense side, moving on to the next few pages there, this is the line-item detail for the expenditures. She said everything looked reasonable to me as I went down the various line items. She said you can see on the last page that we're only 20.5% spent on the expenditure side for water, which is lower than the 25%, which would be the annualized amount. She said the reason for that is the large debt payments haven't been paid yet. She said they're made in December and June. She said so once you factor that in we're right on target for what we would expect there. She said any questions on water.

No one spoke.

Ms. Radcliffe said moving on, Solid Waste is your last stack of papers there. She said the first page and 3/4's of the next page are revenues. She said you can see the first group of revenues there are other taxes and license. She said this is your scrap tire, white goods, and solid waste disposal taxes that get distributed quarterly by the state. She said we've received one distribution for each of those. She said so you can see we're slightly above, we'd expect to see 25% and we're at 28.8% so that's good. She said next the scrap tire disposal, that is an annual distribution and came in slightly below what I thought we would collect there, because we will not collect any more of that for the rest of the year. She said then next is our big

revenue for solid waste is our annual fee that is billed on the tax bills, that \$170 fee there and of course we've not to collected much of that yet but as I said that's normal, as I said with the tax bills most people pay in November and December so we will expect to collect most of that revenue in the next couple of months coming up but we have collected over \$700,000 in the first three months there. She said moving on to the last page you can see a detailed listing on the expenditure side for solid waste and solid waste expenditures are at about 15% so far for this year. She said so well below the 25%, which we would expect.

Bid/Offer to Purchase Property

Ms. Mosher said we have three properties that are currently available and have received \$100 bids on all three of them. She said as a reminder, these properties are going to be listed on Govdeals and in anticipation of your approval I've gone ahead and made a meeting with our Govdeals representative to make sure everything runs smoothly, and we reach as many people as possible and that it is done correctly.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to approve placing the three properties up for bid. Commissioner Rebholz seconded. The vote was unanimous.

See Addendum 2

Broadband Negotiations Update

Mr. Alligood said Mr. Rebholz asked for this to be put on the agenda and to be held on the agenda for a while, the broadband negotiation update. He said I really don't have an update for you since the last meeting. He said we are still waiting to see how the great grant bill comes out of the general assembly. He said I will tell you one of the things we are watching very closely and concerns us a little bit is the definition of unserved and underserved. He said the issue there is it reads "a location in a county that has no deployment of broadband services or has internet access that do not meet the definition of broadband. He said they're defining broadband as 25 down and 3 up. He said the issue though is it also reads "unserved or underserved areas where a private provider has been designated to receive funds through other state or federally funded programs designed specifically for broadband appointment shall be considered served if such funding is intended to result in construction of broadband in the area within 18 months or for the duration of the federal funding program for that area or if the funding received is otherwise in good standing with the funding agency regulations funding the program". He said so you will recall last meeting we spoke about the southside where there was federal RDOF funding, Rural Development Opportunity Fund funding, where some of the larger companies got money and it's a patchwork across the southern part of the County where they've received federal money to put broadband in. He said I think that program, I went to look at it today and couldn't find the final number but I think it's a six-year program, they've got to get it in within six years but what it does is it kind of eliminates our ability, or we're concerned that it may eliminate our ability to put together a Great Grant that would allow us to get into the southern part of the County because, according to this, you can't go to areas that have already been funded by a federal funding source. He said so that's a concern we have with this language. He said that's been expressed, I know the Association has expressed it as well, we'll just have to see how that shakes out.

Chairman Waters said in your discussions, is there another option or some alternatives that we might be able to work on as it relates to a tower or towers.

Mr. Alligood said well I think there is, well I say there is, that would be a conversation for the providers under a wireless. He said originally, with a Great Grant, because Great Grant is a three-year grant, or it used to be a three-year grant, you've got to move fairly quickly, and you couldn't do a large project by putting fiber in the ground under a three-year grant. He said so most of the Great Grant provisions, or most of the Great Grant providers, most look to do a fixed wireless solution because you can do it fairly quickly. He said that was what was proposed, as you recall when we put out our RFP to seek broadband providers our current partner, RiverStreet, came back they proposed to us doing a fixed wireless solution so it could quickly be done and then continue to build out those areas with fiber as you got additional grants so there would be additional opportunity it's just would we be able to receive the Great Grant to help bolster that to get through those areas and do those things when there's already some RDOF funding in those areas. He said so that's the challenge. He said we're

not the only county in the state that's got that issue, I assure you. He said there's a large amount of RDOF funds that went out across North Carolina so we're not alone in this situation.

Commissioner Rebholz said do you know when RDOF was awarded. He said you said six years.

Mr. Alligood said they were going through, they started out that they had short forms, they submitted their stuff then had to go through the long form. He said my understanding is in July they finished up the long form process. He said they have had some defaults already where companies have said no, we can't do it for the amount of money you gave us, so they did default or turned the money back in. He said they did have a list today that I found where those agencies, or those private providers had gone through the long form process and been approved so they had a list of approved ones that were ready to move forward. He said there were none in North Carolina that I saw that had gotten through that process yet and been approved for funding. He said I don't know when it will happen.

Classification Addition to Salary Grade List

Mr. Alligood said this was an item that was on the agenda at the last meeting that the Board asked for it to come back. He said this is the classification addition to the salary list and just for the short of it, you'll see on page 215 the organization chart that shows where the Assistant Director of 911 is located. He said this is an org chart that was in the budget last year, two years ago. He said last year since the Board just awarded FTEs to the Sheriff's Office we just showed the FTE's but in prior years, ever since I've been here, we've had this org chart. He said the short of it is when we did the study we missed that position and that's on us, that's not on the Sheriff's office. He said we missed getting that position in the right place and this gets that position in the right place. He said in doing this you are not adding any positions to the Sheriff's Office, there are no additional FTE's, there's no additional funding being added. He said this is simply saying this is where the position is operating, this is where it should be, this is where it should be paid on the pay scale, and we're just asking that you allow us to put that in and make it right the way it should be.

Commissioner Richardson said have we always had an assistant manager.

Mr. Alligood said ever since, I think the position really became, and when you say assistant manager that's what you're calling it but it is, when the Board approved the EMD, we put in Emergency Medical Dispatch and the Board added four additional telecommunicators so we could handle the pre-arrival instructions for people who were having medical emergencies, that was the primary role of that person because there's a lot of auditing that they have to do. He said they have to review a certain number of calls that things are going by the protocols. He said so as I recall that was when that position became really substantial in what it did. He said like I said, when we went through that process we missed a couple of them, unfortunately. He said it's on us and we missed that in picking it up.

Commissioner Richardson said but if we put on four additional people to do that, that would've been one for each shift, there would not have been an assistant manager.

Mr. Alligood said we added a telecommunicator for each additional shift to cover the EMD, we had to add an additional shift person.

Commissioner Richardson said that was four people added so there was an additional shift person.

Mr. Alligood said yes sir, there was an additional shift person.

Commissioner Richardson said I don't remember having an assistant manager.

Mr. Alligood said if you go back and look at the org charts it's been in there for five or six, it's been in there since I've been here. He said at least four or five years.

Motion: Commissioner Rebholz motioned to approve adding Assistant Communications Manager to the Salary Plan. Chairman Waters seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Rebholz

No Vote

Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

See Addendum 3

Legends and Lore Marker Land Permission Letter

Mr. Alligood said this is a request from the City of Washington. He said they are applying for a Legends and Lore Marker Grant program to install a marker at the old courthouse. He said it is to highlight the story of the ghost of Reverend Carawan. He said they need a letter from the County because we are the owner of the property, if that award is granted, to say that you would allow them to put that marker on County property. He said so that is what they're request is, you have the supporting documentation, and we would recommend your approval.

Chairman Waters said has anybody heard this story. He said I've heard it and if I understand it correctly the reverend ended up taking a gun into the courtroom.

Mr. Alligood said it's my understanding the reverend was on trial and he was in the courtroom, and he was found guilty, and he stood up and shot the district attorney who was prosecuting him and then he pulled out another weapon and shot and killed himself and now he haunts the courthouse.

Chairman Waters said this reverend was from Scranton area in Hyde County, if I remember that part of it.

Commissioner Booth said does the County have any say-so where the marker will be placed.

Mr. Alligood said as you see on their note, that's where they would propose it but yes, if it's on our property we can certainly work with them to get it in the right place so it's not in the way or causing a hazard. He said it wouldn't be a problem.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to approve the letter. Commissioner Walker seconded. The vote was unanimous.

See Addendum 4

Tax Assessor Refunds Over \$100.00

Chairman Waters said we will do this before we get into the Commissioners items. He said you might want to turn to page 19 in your book. He said I raised the question on Wilkerson Solar and also Chocowinity Solar. He said the reason I pulled it out is because of the amount of money and I sent Mr. Salter an email so if you'll just tell us why the large refund.

Mr. Lloyd Salter said I'm actually going to read something to you real briefly. He said my assistant assessor handles a lot of quality control for the office, looks over the records, sees how a lot of that goes. He said I had her put it into words for me and then I'll be happy to address anything with this. He said basically on the 7th of September a representative for Chocowinity Solar requested the work papers for their business abstract. He said that's common, people want to see the listing, what we've done to it, what we've added to it. He said after the review and the abstract the representative asked why the appreciation factor, and I'll elaborate on that, was not the same as the North Carolina Department of Revenues T-18 schedule for solar panels. He said commonly, our office uses for solar panels, a schedule, a depreciation schedule that was determined by the state. He said the solar panels seemed to be in line with what we feel they should be depreciated at; we use the one called a T-18. He said the T-18 schedule, simply put, as we just alluded to, was done by the North Carolina Department of Revenue. He said due to that question we reviewed that schedule. He said we compared it to our vendor, Farragut, the North Carolina property tax system that we do contract with that we use for our software in the tax department. He said we started looking at that and compared it to what Farragut, the vendor, had loaded into the system. He said now they loaded that last year so again, to repeat, the depreciation schedule, we put it into the system, it works against the values, it depreciates the values, it goes in, the State sends the schedules, we send the state schedule to Farragut and Farragut

puts it in. He said this was all done last year before I had taken over. He said essentially when that happened we noticed there was a scheduling conflict, there was a problem with the schedule. He said a lot of the schedules will do a certain percentage drop each year. He said the T-18 refers to an 18-year schedule or something to that affect. He said so there was a mistake in it that we saw, and all properties were then researched. He said we found nine properties in the system. He said four of those properties had been paid, now these are the solar panels that we're talking about here, these specific ones. He said those other properties, again, were researched. He said then the other properties were contacted due to the correction of the T-18 schedule, generating refunds to them. He said when a schedule is changed, updated, or corrected, it changed everything in the system on how that schedule occurs. He said we have four down here, I think there were only two that were a high number. He said we did have two that resulted in a refund. He said I will say these are on an exemption too, a partial exemption, based on a state program, the way that works, I think it's an 80/20 or something to that effect. He said the state schedule that they supply was put in, there was a mistake in it. He said my assistant thinks that was mentioned last year, again, being I wasn't fully in here until January 1st I don't know if it was mentioned or not to be fully honest with you. He said I do know it was put in and it was not caught until recently.

Chairman Waters said does the state get involved in land values as it relates to solar farms.

Mr. Salter said so, well, yes and no. He said this is one of those, I'll be brief but I'm happy to elaborate more. He said a lot of times, depending on the owner, the equipment and everything, the state gets very involved. He said if it's a private entity the case is normally no, so we have done a few things out there. He said one time before, this particular farm, I believe something came through here on that, on the solar farm. He said we looked at it and reviewed it for discrepancies, there were some things broke out on the land, there was an exemption on part of it I believe and, not uncommon with solar farms there's some stuff like that but no, not normally, unless it's something zoned, of course, by an entity.

Chairman Waters said so we determine the land value locally.

Mr. Salter said in this particular case I believe we did. He said now again, the Airport and things like that it's a little bit different.

Chairman Waters said Wilkinson owns one tract of land and leases two.

Mr. Salter said that is correct sir.

Chairman Waters said I'm assuming the land value is the same whether it's leased or whether it's owned.

Mr. Salter said that's correct if it's a private entity. He said this isn't for the land though, this is just for the panels.

Commissioner Richardson said just to clarify, the 20/80 thing, these people are only taxed at 20% to begin with of the original capital value.

Mr. Salter said yes, if I recall how that actually works that is one of the exemption programs set up by the state for those programs and we're following, of course, state mandate for that.

Commissioner Richardson said then the 20% is put on an 18-year schedule, straight line.

Mr. Salter said yes, I believe so, it should be 18.

Chairman Waters said if I remember correctly from my research when we were talking hot and heavy about it, I think the salvage value is 25% of what that investment is so it never goes to zero.

Commissioner Richardson said no, it never goes below 25%.

Chairman Waters said yeah, I think it's 25%.

Mr. Salter said so basically most of your schedules have a residual factor and eventually you hit residual and 25% is a very common residual for most of these. He said the thing to remember though is you are talking about a very large amount of money. He said most of those have outrageous purchase prices.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to approve the refunds. Commissioner Rebholz seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Status of Mega-Sites, ARPA Funding

Commissioner Richardson said I'm keeping mega-sites on here because I'm still hoping that somebody will, somewhere will allow us to build these waste sites because it is waste, and it is infrastructure. He said that's the only reason it's still on here. He said I ask the Manager if there's anything new to report.

Mr. Alligood said no.

Commissioner Richardson said okay, same old, same old.

Public Library Improvements

Commissioner Richardson said public library improvements is the same question.

Mr. Alligood said no.

Commissioner Richardson said okay.

Resolution Not to Connect to Martin County Water System

Commissioner Richardson said Martin County Water System, I make a motion that Beaufort County not do the inter-connection to the Martin County Water System. He said I'm going to review the reasons for it. He said the reason I'm making this motion is it was talked about and taken off the table at the last meeting, but things have a way of happening without Commissioners knowing about it and I want to make sure that we do not connect to the Martin County Water System. He said the reason is that Beaufort County is very unique in the world of providing water to our people. He said that is we have the Castle Hayne aquifer which is a virtually unlimited source of good water. He said Martin County takes their water, most of their water comes from, to put it in my terms, swamp water that is treated. He said I know people that live in Martin County, and they tell me the water has an odor, a taste, and a color to it that is not desirable. He said Martin County pays twice as much for water as people in Beaufort County pay for water. He said we should never connect our water system to an inferior water system. He said so that is a motion.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned to not allow a connection between the Beaufort County water system and the Martin County water system. Commissioner Deatherage seconded.

Commissioner Rebholz said would you modify that motion to we would not connect to Martin County without approval of the Board.

Commissioner Richardson said yeah, I don't have a problem with that, the Board can always reverse itself so if you want that language in there that's fine with me.

Commissioner Booth said what board.

Commissioner Rebholz said this Board.

Chairman Waters said my position is I'm going to vote against the motion. He said I think as a good neighbor, and I'll use the example of Hyde County, Hyde County is connected to Beaufort County, and I'm served by the Hyde County water system, and I think it's just good business. He said it doesn't mean we're going to turn the valve and just flood water over there or flood water here but in case of an emergency things can happen, so I think it's just being a bad neighbor. He said I'm not concerned about the water.

Commissioner Richardson said apparently you didn't live in Beaufort County when we had the trihalomethane issue. He said you only get trihalomethanes when you treat swamp water. He said that water the City took at that time was coming from Tranter's Creek which is surface water, which is swamp water. He said it was treated and had trihalomethanes in it. He said we are connecting to a system that has inferior water and we don't need to be doing that.

Modified Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned to not allow a connection between the Beaufort County water system and the Martin County water system without permission from the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Deatherage seconded.

Yes Vote

Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Rebholz
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Booth

Commissioner Richardson said are you three on the Water Committee.

Commissioner Booth said I'm not, I just agree with what these two gentlemen said, good neighbors.

Commissioner Richardson said good neighbors and poisoned water is not a good idea.

Chairman Water said I don't know that anybody has died over in Martin County recently, do you.

Distribution of Meeting Video Issues

Commissioner Richardson said these videos, filming these meetings has become a serious problem. He said at one time we had a contractor who's sitting at the other end of the table from me, and we had good quality and we had good service and the programs went up reasonably quick. He said we got that for about \$27,000 per year. He said then we spent \$140,000 in round numbers, maybe more or less for a modern, sophisticated system and immediately the quality went down to the bottom of the barrel. He said I've been talking now, for two years, ever since we've been in this building on how to get the quality up. He said we had a Police Committee meeting this month. He said at the end of the Police Committee meeting, and I thought we had a very good meeting with a lot of information that could've gotten out to the public but at the end of the meeting the operator came in and suddenly announced gee, guys, we didn't get any of the audio. He said so with a \$140,000 system we should have gold plated stuff being turned out. He said I don't know about you guys but the way this stuff shows up on my tv it looks like it's filmed at the bottom of the barrel. He said it's grainy, it's hard to see, it's fuzzy. He said I'm looking at this and the quality on the monitors in this room is incredible compared to what we're getting at home. He said this is going to be fixed because we've spent our money, so I have some questions for the Manager as to what our policies are and how we go about this. He said first of all I think every meeting should be immediately stopped as soon as the operator determines that we're not getting the video or the audio. He said that should be announced to the people that are in the meeting or are chairing the meeting. He said they should know about that. He said so can we do that in the future.

Mr. Alligood said if the Board would like to put in policies to do things that way we can certainly do that. He said I'll speak to the issue that occurred the other night. He said we had some issues, as you recall, when we moved stuff around with covid, we moved this desk, we put you all down here, we put stuff over there, we moved our entire system around. He said when we put it back together and put it back in place there was a connection that got, something happened where we were unable to connect to the HDMI from this table, the document reader wasn't working so we had some issues. He said we got AV Audio back in, Auburn video back in here to look at it. He said they did that, it took them a while obviously, it was last week before they were able to get back in here and do it. He said they resolved all those issues. He said while they were back there working and finding stuff there is a small power strip that powers the audio amplifier back there. He said it got disconnected somehow while they were working. He said we didn't know it, if we would've known it we would've fixed it. He said but that was resolved after we got into it the next day. He said so that's the issue. He said if the Board would want for us to say you can cancel your meetings if there's an issue we can certainly tell you any time there's an issue.

Commissioner Richardson said I'm not advocating that we cancel a meeting but I'm advocating that the Board be notified so the Board can make a decision on what it wants to do. He said the second question that comes into this, when you talk about notifying the Board when the program is not being captured is, is there a pre-test done before every meeting to be sure the system is operating properly.

Mr. Alligood said we do turn the system on. He said as you recall the other night we had an issue with the podium mic so we used this mic over here to do that so we test the mic's, we just did not see in the back because the video has to come on before they could see it had an issue, but we do, we power everything up. He said I came over today to make sure we were good, turn some mic's on and check a few things. He said we do that. He said it's our intent to do things right, we're certainly not doing things intentionally.

Commissioner Richardson said no, stuff doesn't just happen, too much stuff has just happened. He said we lost a whole meeting two meetings ago where you were accusing Commissioner Deatherage of being a criminal. He said that meeting never really got out into the public and it should've gotten out into the public, not that he's a criminal but the public needs to know what the issues are and that's why I'm talking about this. He said so I think there should be a pre-test before every meeting. He said have the people that are operating this, have they been trained by anybody.

Mr. Alligood said we do have staff that has been trained by the AV folks but what I will say to you is that our staff is doing this in addition to their other job so I would be happy if the Board would entertain another FTE to be a public information officer, video person and a host of other duties we could assign them with to handle public relations related to Board activities. He said if the Board would consider that I would certainly jump all over that and have you somebody who did that for a living would be able to do that for us.

Commissioner Richardson said Commissioner Walker was as cheap as you all were going to get, and you fired him.

Chairman Waters said are you finished.

Commissioner Richardson said my button is still on, I thought I still have the floor, are you telling me I'm finished.

Chairman Waters said no, I was just asking a question.

Commissioner Richardson said well then I'm not finished but I'm getting real close to being finished. He said when people finish in here I want to make the motion that the system be cranked up before each meeting and tested and that the Board or whoever is meeting be notified immediately that we're not picking up sound and/or video so a decision can be made about how to proceed with the meeting.

Commissioner Deatherage said before you make that motion, can I go. He said obviously I'm not a criminal but what is criminal is to have this to have this expensive, elaborate system and we record in 360 dots per inch. He said I would suggest that we record every meeting at 1080p and upload it at least 720p and if you would put that in your motion I would appreciate that. He said that would reduce the graininess. He said 1080 would eliminate the graininess. He said I do believe this system records in, can record in 4K.

Commissioner Walker said the problem would be what they show it on in cable.

Commissioner Deatherage said but it can be recorded in 4k, reduced to 1080p.

Commissioner Walker said right but where we were showing it at Suddenlink it was just a basic DVD player, so they didn't have the ability. He said now if you want to have the discussion of being able to wire it right in there, that is coming up and I think that's the future. He said for them to be able to download it and then we can be at the level you're talking about even more.

Commissioner Deatherage said 1080p would be great.

Mr. Alligood said if I could speak to that. He said so there were some issues with Suddenlink, as you all recall. He said Suddenlink closed their local office and that was our avenue for getting those meeting broadcast on the local Suddenlink channel. He said we do have other channels that we broadcast to, the City of Washington helps us on their peg channel, RiverStreet does it on theirs, as well as we have it listed on the YouTube Channel. He said I've had some conversations with Suddenlink, some slow conversations but they have agreed now that they will set up a drop box at the Hackney location where we can drop off a DVD again. He said they will put it in and play it, I think it actually goes out of the head office in New Bern, but they've also given us some additional information that if the Board, the question he asked me was are your folks willing to spend some money because what they're talking about is if you want to send it directly to them at the head end it requires what they call a hyper-caster, peg broadcasting piece of equipment where, and I have a meeting with their engineers tomorrow to answer some questions that I have about it but it's my understanding this would allow us

to stream. He said because what I wanted to do was stream and re-broadcast. He said my understanding is we have an encoder, we have a dual encoder back there that we could do both, we could both send it to our normal stream and then also send the dual stream to them, but I wanted to confirm it with their engineers first. He said this would then allow us to stream the meetings through their access channel, also upload the videos, whatever video's those are and then the question I also had was would we be handling the scheduling. He said they would actually host this piece of equipment in their head-in. He said you would obviously pay for it, but they would host it in their head-in and my hope would be we would have access to that scheduling but that's the question I have for them. He said this is about a \$10,000 piece of equipment but they have provided those options for us if that's what you want to do. He said we just need to know and again, we're still watching it.

Commissioner Booth said Mr. Manager I want you to tell the young lady I think she's doing a good job.

Mr. Alligood said thank you Commissioner Booth, Ms. Beacham does an absolutely fantastic job. He said it's one of her other duties as assigned and I think she does a great job, as well as Marshall Younce. He said Mr. Younce does the work for us as well and again it's other duties as assigned.

Commissioner Booth said you test an airplane before you get on them and they still crash so stuff happens.

Commissioner Walker said if we do get, if we are able to get this system I'd like to see it on 24 hours a day unless Mr. Younce could probably come up with information or even if it's promoting Beaufort County stuff.

Mr. Alligood said I'm not sure. He said you've got to remember this is not our peg channel, this would be theirs and it's their government access channel so don't know that would necessarily give us the ability to control that entire channel, but we can certainly have those conversations. He said I would say to you this, you're again, adding additional duties to our folks whose other duties as assigned and I would put forward to you that if you really want to handle this thing right I can handle that with another FTE.

Commissioner Walker said one more thing, in your discussions tomorrow ask them who could control the channel because I think that's a great way, we talked about how to get information out to people, this is a great way to do it.

Mr. Alligood said that was part of my list of things to ask him because I wanted to know who was scheduling it because in reading the brochure they sent me it says you upload it, and you can schedule it. He said I would want us to be able to schedule it so that if we had multiple meetings going on we could upload multiple meetings and say on this date you're playing this meeting and on this date you're playing this meeting and things like that, or you could play them multiple times a day.

Chairman Waters said I'm going to post the motion because I think staff is doing a good job, does anyone have anything else to say.

Commissioner Richardson said I'd like to make a motion.

Chairman Waters said you've already made it.

Commissioner Richardson said no I really haven't, I just said I would wait to make it until everyone had a chance to speak. He said I'll just do it again.

Commissioner Deatherage said a minimum of 720p.

Commissioner Richardson said you want to say a minimum of 720p.

Commissioner Deatherage said yes, a minimum of 720p.

Commissioner Richardson said does that work.

Commissioner Walker said I think you're going to have to wait to see if that can be shown, if Suddenlink agrees that they have a way to show that because that's a different player for them to show that so that, if we get this machine, this add-on to stream it then yes but if you're putting it on a DVD and putting it in a drop box that's not going to be accurate.

Commissioner Richardson said let's just say higher than 360 pixels and if you get the new machine then you can do it higher than 360 pixels. He said that's my motion.

Commissioner Deatherage said how about to the highest pixel possible.

Commissioner Walker said I made it look so easy all those years.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned that a test be performed before each meeting to assure the system is working properly and notice be given to whoever is conducting the meeting that should a defect occur and that we record and disburse at the highest pixels possible. Commissioner Deatherage seconded.

Yes Vote

Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

No Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Rebholz

Commissioner Richardson said y'all should expect an article.

Chairman Waters said well, you make everything political.

Commissioner Richardson said I'm going to tell the truth on you, I'm going to tell what happened and the public's ears are going to burn.

Chairman Waters said well, technical problems happen, just like with an airplane so go ahead.

Commissioner Richardson said I'm going to make the political problems happen.

Chairman Waters said are you finished.

Commissioner Richardson said yes but you had your chance though.

Mr. Alligood said Mr. Chairman can I ask a question; do you want me to continue this opportunity for streaming and uploading to Suddenlink instead of just a drop box DVD.

Chairman Waters said I have no problems with continuing investigating it.

Mr. Alligood said I just wanted to make sure.

Commissioner Walker said do you need that to be a motion.

Commissioner Booth said no.

Investigation Into Crimes Not Being Investigated in Beaufort County by the Sheriff's Office

Commissioner Deatherage said there's a question here and the question to you Beaufort County Commissioners and every North Carolina law enforcement agency is when does the propriety of law equally applied matter. He said the perfect and essential answer is that it matters for every citizen, all the time, no exceptions.

Commissioner Booth said is that a question.

Commissioner Deatherage said that is the question of this entire event that we're getting ready to discuss. He said what is of extreme concern to me and should be the concern of every fair-minded Beaufort County citizen is that on occasion this constitutional guaranteed of equal application of the law as related to me for at least this one incident has not met the maximum of our authority class. He said to be specific, an incident where the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, spanning two administrations, failed to investigate the threatened extreme violation of a minor and then the eventual complete violation of that same minor, formerly threatened, did occur. He said my overall arching question is what point does the Beaufort County Commissioners care to get involved to aid a Beaufort County citizen to seek redress for his families

constitutionally guaranteed justice denied against the evil perpetrated, that this citizen has now claimed. He said that citizen mentioned in this Beaufort County court of business is Beaufort County citizen Bruce Gray. He said would you like to come forward sir. He said Mr. Gray do you come before these Beaufort County Commissioners on your own volition, of your own free will.

Mr. Bruce Gray said yes I do.

Commissioner Deatherage said and you intend to speak honestly, as you know it.

Mr. Gray said yes sir, completely.

Commissioner Deatherage said would you now speak to this particular problem before these Commissioners and this people's political court of the people's governance.

Mr. Gray said this is concerning children being sexually molested and trafficked and me trying to get some justice in stopping this. He said at six years old, when my child was six years old, was the first time I was threatened to be killed by this criminal organization that traffics women and children here. He said when they threatened to kill me I got up with who I thought was a friend of mine that I had worked with previously and his name is David Richards and I got up with him because we had worked together at Park Boat Company before he had become a Sheriff and asked him to come to my house and let's discuss how to properly turn this situation in with this organization. He said instead of him coming by himself he brought Mike Holloman and Russel Davenport with him. He said they proceeded to tell me that they knew all about these people and I was to keep my nose out of it and not to be turning them in, instead of being given any kind of help on how to properly turn it in. He said at that point I continued trying to reach out to the Sheriff's Department to get help and on a few occasions was told that they knew, and I was not to be turning them in, to stop turning them in. He said at 11 years old my child was actually rapped by these people and when I went in to talk to the investigating officer, Brad Shackleford was called into his office, he met me in the hallway, asked if I was Bruce Gray and I said yes sir, I am, the next words out of his mouth was its only prostitution. He said at that point I let him know I saw what he was trying to do, and we needed to take care of my child. He said my child was in his office at that time and we went in and talked with the lady from DSS and my child about what had happened. He said when I couldn't get any help with previous to this happening, when I worked with the Sheriff's Department that first year, the next year I went to the SBI, Walter Brown of the SBI, and he told me he would look into it, and he did, and he let me know that everything he saw that I told him was the truth. He said he suggested to the Sheriff's Department to do an investigation and I asked him did he think they would do it and he said no, he didn't think that they would, but he had told them and that was all he could do. He said I told him I thought you guys could do an investigation yourselves and he said the only two people that could ask him to get involved was the district attorney and the sheriff. He said when I couldn't get help there I went to the FBI. He said the FBI then let me know that I needed to, that they couldn't get involved either unless these two people asked them to get involved. He said at that point they did suggest that I, being that the Sheriff's Department wasn't making any reports or letting me report or to go to the National Association Against Human Trafficking. He said I worked with them for, now about six years in reporting these people and reporting the Sheriff's Department for not helping, and the Department of Social Services too. He said I was actually told by two different supervisors at the Department of Social Services that Abby Williams, the last time, and Barry Johnson at the beginning, that they knew, and I was not to be turning these people in. He said in fact if I kept turning them in they would take my child from me and place her with her mother, who is one of the people in this organization. He said in fact her mother was the one who tied her to the bed and let a man rape her and stuff. He said that's what DSS did when they actually put it in court papers that I hadn't turned it into the proper authorities and took my child for two years, placing her with her mother. He said I have full custody; it's supposed to be my choice where my child is supposed to be placed but they placed her with her mother's family who tried to have her change her mind about what had happened and thank the Lord for the therapist not letting them have contact with these people anymore and telling them to reunite us. He said that's the only way I was able to get my child back from Social Services was through our therapist and the Lord. He said I'm sorry, it's a little hard to talk about it sometimes, there again, thank the Lord for the therapist, they've done a great job.

Commissioner Deatherage said Mr. Gray may I ask a question.

Mr. Gray said of course.

Commissioner Deatherage said you say at 11 your child was physically violated, did a doctor.

Mr. Gray said I took her as soon as I found out I took her to the children's hospital in Greenville.

Commissioner Deatherage said did he certify that she was in fact raped.

Mr. Gray said yes.

Commissioner Deatherage said did you make that information available to the various law enforcement agencies that you spoke to.

Mr. Gray said not at the time I had not. He said I did, they told me to go to Tedi Bear in Greenville for treatment of my child and at that time Brad Shackleford was called in there also and was made aware at the meeting with Tedi Bear.

Commissioner Deatherage said was he told at the time about all the incidences and everything that happened, your former wife's involvement as well.

Mr. Gray said I'm not sure about the wife thing, she wasn't my wife either.

Commissioner Deatherage said okay, right, the mother of the child, sorry. He said he may or may not have been informed at that time about her.

Mr. Gray said about that part, yes sir but that she had been raped.

Commissioner Deatherage said that was definite.

Mr. Gray said yes sir, in the office of Tedi Bear, with the therapist.

Commissioner Deatherage said they are aware of such, and they made record of such.

Mr. Gray said yes.

Commissioner Deatherage said at that point, when your child was 11, you worked with the Sheriff's Department for one year, so you said.

Mr. Gray said that was when she was six, for one year.

Commissioner Deatherage said when she was six, when she was 11 did you work with the Sheriff's Department to try to get.

Mr. Gray said how can you work with somebody that says it's only prostitution.

Commissioner Deatherage said well, that is, that was poorly put, sadly that was very poorly put.

Mr. Gray said at 11 years old.

Commissioner Deatherage said at that time you did contact the SBI.

Mr. Gray said I did that after one year of working with the Sheriff's Department when she was six. He said when she turned about seven years old is when I started working with the SBI and then informed the FBI after working with the SBI for one year and him telling me that he saw what I was saying was true and he suggested doing an investigation and he also let me know that he had no idea that they would.

Commissioner Deatherage said at eleven, when the incident terribly occurred did you feel powerless.

Mr. Gray said of course. He said when you look into the people that you're supposed to look to for help and be told that not to be turning these people in.

Commissioner Deatherage said I may have some more questions later. He said does anyone else have any questions.

Chairman Waters said do you have an attorney.

Mr. Gray said I'm trying to get an attorney. He said I cannot get an attorney to even look at the proof that I have on the paperwork.

Chairman Waters said you cannot.

Mr. Gray said no sir, I've tried.

Vice-Chairman Langley said when you say you presented evidence to the Sheriff's Department that a crime had been committed and you say that your daughter was tied to a bed and raped and then was taken to the Tedi Bear Clinic, in relationship to time of the actual rape and the time you went to the Tedi Bear Clinic, how much time are we talking about.

Mr. Gray said she was, she didn't tell about it until it was about, I'm guess, about three months before she told somebody at our church about what had happened. He said then DSS came out and asked about it and that's when I found out.

Vice-Chairman Langley said so the Department of Social Services was doing an investigation.

Mr. Gray said they're the ones that came out and told me that it had been reported by the child.

Vice-Chairman Langley said as a result of their investigation they in turn turned over whatever information they had to the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Gray said I'm assuming so.

Vice-Chairman Langley said then you're saying to me that the Sheriff's Department did nothing and so my next question is what did you say to the district attorney's office.

Mr. Gray said I was told by the SBI to write the district attorney a letter, and I did and that was part of the year that I worked with the SBI.

Vice-Chairman Langley said you're somewhat confusing me.

Mr. Gray said I understand.

Vice-Chairman Langley said this is from my, I'm not calling you a liar because I really don't know, if my daughter had been raped and the Sheriff's Department would not do anything I would not write a letter to the district attorney's office, I would in fact go to the district attorney's office and demand to talk to the district attorney. He said he, in turn, could force the Sheriff's Office to do an investigation. He said you also say you talked to the SBI, and they said you actually had a case, but they couldn't do anything with it, so my next question is did you talk to the attorney general. He said he is the highest law enforcement officer in the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Gray said no sir, I don't know much about the law, I'm just a regular working man and that may have been my fault by not doing that.

Vice-Chairman Langley said let me ask you this, was there anybody advising you on what you should be doing.

Mr. Gray said the man from SBI, Walter Brown advised me, but he was advising me before the rape of my child.

Vice-Chairman Langley said let me say this, I was a deputy for 14 years and I did investigations and I hear what you're saying but the dots are not connecting for me. He said that's the problem I have, that your dots are not connecting. He said I've been away from the Sheriff's Department since 1996 so, such an egregious crime, for any law enforcement officer to hear such a thing and to ignore it, that's just a tough one for me.

Mr. Gray said it's hard for me to believe also.

Commissioner Walker said concerning the therapist, is the therapist who you sought, or were you told this therapist is who you need to get and are you paying for the therapist yourself.

Mr. Gray said yes I did.

Commissioner Walker said so how did you get this therapist, how did you know to contact this therapist.

Mr. Gray said when I was at the Tedi Bear clinic I broke down and asked the lady that I needed help as well and she advised me to this lady.

Commissioner Walker said is the same therapist helping you that's helping your daughter.

Mr. Gray said no.

Commissioner Walker said they're two different therapists.

Mr. Gray said they're two different therapists.

Commissioner Walker said you're paying for them yourself.

Mr. Gray said no she's being done through the Department of Social Services.

Commissioner Walker said okay, but you're paying for your therapist.

Mr. Gray said yes.

Commissioner Deatherage said when did DSS first get involved. He said I think you told us it was after the first threat when your daughter was around 7, 6 or 7.

Mr. Gray said yes, that's right.

Commissioner Deatherage said did they believe you or did they find you credible.

Mr. Gray said Barry Johnson, again, told me not to be turning these people in.

Commissioner Deatherage said so you felt, at that point, you weren't getting any service from them, you weren't getting any service from the Beaufort County Sheriff's Department at that time because it was only prostitution. He said then you found out about the mother of the child probably from the child, am I right.

Mr. Gray said no, I found this out through the Department of Social Services.

Commissioner Deatherage said they found it out, oh, okay.

Mr. Gray said that's what my child had told them. He said my child didn't tell me, she told somebody in church, and I've always told my child if anything was to happen and you didn't feel comfortable telling your daddy to tell somebody that you trusted and she did, she told people in church.

Commissioner Deatherage said at that point when your daughter told the Department of Social Services they did not, no longer wanted to place the child with the mother or the mother's family or did they still want to do that.

Mr. Gray said that happened sometime later is when they actually said I hadn't turned it into the proper authorities and took her, even though they're the ones that told me about it.

Commissioner Deatherage said well they are the proper authorities. He said it seems like the buck, it seems like a lot is being passed. He said now Mr. Gray has admitted he's a simple man and a lot of people are simple. He said I'm simple in a situation like this and I don't always do the right thing, although I wish I would.

Mr. Gray said I wish I knew the right thing.

Commissioner Deatherage said maybe you didn't know the right thing to do and maybe you went up to doors that were closing in your face, it sounds like to me, and this is his story. He said is it true or not. He said is that for us to even decide.

Commissioner Richardson said it's not for us to decide.

Commissioner Deatherage said I don't think it's up for us to decide. He said what we should decide is should this be investigated at some level here in North Carolina, finally be investigated.

Commissioner Booth said I understand what you're saying Commissioner, but I don't think there's a Commissioner sitting up here on this dais that has the authority to tell nobody to investigate anybody. He said number one you have to have elements, first you've got to have the facts that a crime has been committed, which I don't doubt, but we just don't have the elements. He said we don't have nothing. He said I just don't feel comfortable in sending somebody to the attorney general and saying investigate them when we don't, I'm still in a fog, the thing I'm in a fog is this thing happened from six years old up to eleven years old and I think, I just don't know. He said I really feel whole heartedly that he needs help, but I don't know what we can do as a Commission. He said we can't empower nobody to arrest somebody.

Commissioner Deatherage said no, we can't do that, but we could, as a governing body, hearing one of our constituents, ask, request the attorney general office to at least look into it, send the SBI, which never got involved to begin with, and he did speak to the SBI. He said a lot of times, and you should know this from the past injustices here in North Carolina, when there are groups that will not investigate things, other groups are brought in, whether from the federal government or the state government, to do what local authorities will not do. He said the local authorities may be wise not to do it, but we don't know as a people until we have an investigation, which, until this point we've had none.

Commissioner Booth said Like I said before, I don't have a problem with it being investigated but I just don't feel comfortable, me, and I'd do anything in the world brother to help you if I could, but I don't feel comfortable asking somebody to investigate something that I don't know anything about.

Commissioner Deatherage said but this is what you could do for him since you're sitting up here as a Commissioner, this is something you could do. He said not to pass guilt on or not to assess guilt but to at least assess that there was a possible violation to this child and this family and that an investigation should be merited.

Mr. Gray said that's what I want to ask for today, an investigation.

Commissioner Booth said what I would do today for a constituent I would advise you to write to the North Carolina Attorney General yourself and ask them. He said if the SBI wouldn't do anything, the district attorney you worked for the district attorney for a year, all of that happened and nobody did anything I'm going to tell you something, I'm not going to play with you brother. He said if they couldn't do anything they're empowered to do, none of these jokers up here can do it. He said it's just a ploy, they're playing games. He said it's just a ploy.

Mr. Gray said we need accountability.

Commissioner Booth said we need accountability and the thing about it is I'm not going to sit here and tell you something that I don't know anything about. He said let me ask you one question, why are you here tonight, who asked you to come.

Mr. Gray said nobody asked me to come.

Commissioner Booth said how did you know we were meeting tonight.

Commissioner Deatherage said he's a Beaufort County citizen for crying out loud.

Mr. Gray said I went to a republican's meeting and spoke about what happened.

Commissioner Booth said and who told you we were meeting tonight. He said you don't have to tell me, I'm not your attorney, I'm not an attorney but I know what this is feeding from and let me tell you I feel sympathy and I'd do anything in the world to help you, but I am not going to vote tonight to have someone drug into something that I don't know anything about. He said I just can't do that.

Commissioner Richardson said here's the long story on this. He said this came out in the Police Committee meeting, He said unfortunately that wasn't filmed to where the public can see the facts. He said guess what, that's a serious matter with Hood Richardson. He said I'll go through what happened, Mr. Gray called me some seven or eight years ago and we've talked about this over and over again and he's kept me up to date about what he was doing, and he wasn't getting anywhere with this. He said then the Police Committee, he came to the Police Committee, he called me about the Police Committee, and he came to the Police Committee but first he came to the Beaufort County Conservative Republic Club meeting, and I said Bruce, what are you doing here. He said I didn't invite him, he found out about the meeting, and he came. He said so that came to the Police Committee and that came here. He said now just because Hood Richardson is involved in it doesn't make it seedy or something that's dishonest or something that's rigged. He said if you want to save your soul on

this, this Board has information on a crime. He said we're guilty if we don't act on it. He said my motion is that we request, as a Board, the North Carolina Attorney General investigate this and that's all we can do.

Mr. Gray said I don't understand why anybody wouldn't want to find out the facts of why children are being abused. He said it's not just my child in this criminal organization.

Chairman Waters said we have Chief Deputy Rose who would like to speak.

Commissioner Richardson said is Chief Deputy Rose arguing this motion. He said I have a problem with this.

Chairman Waters said he's coming up at the request of the Chairman and I've got that privilege.

Commissioner Richardson said I understand that, but we've got a motion in front of the Board, and I would want Chief Deputy Rose to tell us whether he supports the motion or he's against it before he starts talking because I see another political game going on here.

Chairman Waters said Chief Rose, at my request, this is the discussion, you're free to comment.

Chief Deputy Rose said I am in agreement with Commissioner Richardson that the Board ought to draft a letter to the Attorney General, to the District Attorney's office, to DSS, to any other parties that are involved and beyond that. He said to request that subpoenas be issued, affidavits be filled out, testimony be given by every person that's been involved since the investigation began over a decade ago. He said I will speak to the Sheriff on it, and I will let him know to the best of my ability what was said. He said we will review what was said and I will ask him to draft the same letter to the Attorney General's office.

Commissioner Deatherage said Mr. Chairman that is perfect, that is the perfect answer.

Chairman Waters said I've been a Commissioner for seven years and I've never seen us get into this situation and I just feel very uncomfortable, you know, you guys are talking and what puts us in this position. He said what's going to change it if the Attorney General is going to move forward on it.

Commissioner Booth said I hate to do this Chief, but I think I know why you think we should do it. He said you want us to clean up and clear up your staff's name, is that correct or am I wrong.

Chief Deputy Rose said any files that we have in any investigation that we have there are limits to the amount of information we can give, even to Boards like this, that if the Attorney General's Office or an investigation that was into investigations that are conducted by DSS, by any law enforcement agency, by the district attorney office then that office will have access to what was done, everything that was said, everyone that was talked to and could give reasons why something was done or not done. He said you can ask questions of me all night and there's some things that I can't just tell you about an investigation that could be covered. He said with something as egregious as is being talked about tonight there's no way me, being who I am, could just let that go without having some sort of discussion and about when it happened and I'm speaking from a person that, I'm standing beside this person and I've never spoken to him, I've never heard from him. He said I spoke to the Sheriff about him, and he could walk up to the Sheriff at Walmart and the Sheriff would not know who he is, and this is something that's gone on for over a decade but the two executive officers at the Sheriff's Office for the last, almost seven years is reading about it in a file but not spoken to him so that's why I'm saying everything to you that I am now.

Commissioner Deatherage said Mr. Chairman, in answer to your question, you don't think this is something we should do. He said in 21 years of being a Commissioner I've never heard of anything being this egregious. He said so that's why it's before us. He said we are this man's last resort. He said Chief Deputy Rose answered this perfectly as a good Christian man. He said all we need is an investigation, without assigning blame or guilt, an investigation is all we're requesting.

Commissioner Walker said I think if the Attorney General picks this up and investigates, we're free. He said we really don't even need to know a result. He said we don't need him to come back in with a report or something like that, it's none of our business after that. He said it's the Attorney General and the investigation. He said that's the way we can get away from this thing, is to write a letter to the Attorney General, explain what happens and see where it goes.

Commissioner Deatherage said perfect, exactly, that's all we're asking for.

Motion: Commissioner Richardson motioned that a letter be sent to the North Carolina Attorney General asking that Mr. Gray's claims be investigated. Commissioner Deatherage seconded.

Yes Vote

Chairman Waters
Vice-Chairman Langley
Commissioner Booth
Commissioner Rebholz

No Vote

Commissioner Deatherage
Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker

Commissioner Richardson said this is a miscarriage of justice on a grand scale. He said I will have comments on this at the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Deatherage said sorry Mr. Gray.

Commissioner Richardson said you got your investigation. He said these morons didn't vote for it, but I can assure you the Attorney General will investigate this.

Mr. Gray said again, I just don't understand why anybody wouldn't want to find out about children.

Commissioner Richardson said because they're political.

Discussion on the Boarder Crisis

Commissioner Deatherage said right now at the border, and this is an ongoing problem we have. He said we have a southern border that's wide open and a northern border that's closed. He said they are trying to affect the browning of America, their words, the words of the democratic socialist who want to change the demographics of voting in America for always and ever. He said in August there was a record of over 200,000 illegal migrants coming across our border during one of the hottest times of year, the time of year when they never come, almost. He said 200,000 came because they'd gotten a green light from the Biden/Harris administration to please come do our bidding. He said they're not being checked for Covid. He said estimates are between 20% and 30% positive for Covid coming across the border. He said once they get thrown in these cages, they began as the Obama cages then they became the Trump cages now they're the Biden/Harris cages, that Covid ferments to a greater elevation. He said we're probably getting 40%, 50% being sent out into America. He said now, this hypocrisy is for all to see, it's too much and we, as Commissioners, are going to end up paying for it. He said our constituents will foot the bill, so we have to be active now and care about it now. He said so I'm going to be talking about this every month, especially with 60,000 migrants now amassing in lower central America to move up here as an invasion.

Commissioner Rebholz said 400,000.

Commissioner Deatherage said 400,000, thank you sir, so this is happening. He said they keep saying the border is closed and nobody will with a full working brain believe that. He said it is open and is open for a political future of Marxism and this is their march and we're going to pay for it. He said we need to be cognizant of it now, we need to know what their goals are, and we need to be ready to do what we need to do on a local level. He said I have a friend who thinks we should secede from the Union. He said not only us but every state that believes in the constitution against every state that doesn't believe in the constitution. He said it's down to that at this point.

Closed Session

Chairman Waters said before we go into closed session we're going to in the back conference room so anybody that wants to stay here you're welcome to stay.

Ms. Mosher read the Board into closed session.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to go into closed session. Commissioner Walker seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to come out of closed session. Commissioner Rebholz seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Francisco said we need a motion to approve Mr. Salters number to try and get the case settled.

Mr. Salter said if you gentlemen don't mind I'm going to give you all four parcels real quick, just for record and then I'll break it down real quick. He said basically it is four different REID numbers. He said they're Reid # 07945, 07946, 32358, and then 17876 and really quickly, that comes up to a total of, if you add them together, \$1,799,684. He said I can break that down individually but that should be okay.

Motion: Commissioner Rebholz motioned to accept Mr. Salter's recommendation. Chairman Waters seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Richardson said I want my comment period that's on the agenda.

Chairman Waters said you guys close it out for me.

Commissioner Richardson said Chairman Waters you might want to hear this because you're the one person that needs to hear this.

Chairman Waters said I have an issue I need to address.

Commissioner Richardson said no you don't, you got, this is an important issue. He said this Board made a serious mistake tonight in not voting for the investigation simply because the Board of County Commissioners is the ultimate authority on a lot of issues in Beaufort County. He said we have Commissioners that want to play serious politics and make the public believe things that are not true. He said since I've been on this Board we have affected Sheriff's, we have affected judges, we have affected the US Government, we have affected district attorneys. He said there's only one Board in the County that can take on issues like this that are not investigated. He said the public only has one place to appeal to ultimately, when it is not done correctly. He said now what these people on this Board that voted against this do not realize what they were elected to do and that is to keep this County honest. He said there is no law against voting for the right thing under any conditions. He said we are the ultimate authority when it comes to applying political pressure to get things done. He said if you don't understand what your duties are you need to resign.

Commissioner Deatherage said I'd like a moment to speak. He said I ask for that privilege even though our Chairman flew the coop. He said Commissioners, you have a constitutional duty to observe and understand what the laws are of the land and that one of those laws of the land is that the law will be applied equally, and I shouldn't have to tell all of you that. He said I shouldn't have to lecture you but the very idea that in some way you may be helping the child when actually you are driving one thing home for the child, that her violation is okay. He said we're okay with it, we don't think anything should be done because we don't have any power. He said you had power to write a simple letter to the attorney general's office. He said even Chief Deputy Rose thought it was a good idea. He said of course they want absolution, why wouldn't they. He said everybody needs to be absolved of their guilt or not and an investigation would find that out, possibly. He said I think Commissioner Walker said it best, once that investigation goes to the attorney general it's out of our hands. He said there's only so much we can do. He said when Commissioner Richardson said we've made a difference, those differences were made by very narrow margins, am I right Commissioner Richardson. He said a lot of Commissioners would not have tried to do so and he did. He said this is another issue where we dropped the ball, and you should look into your heart as to why. He said it's not a political issue, this is a human right's issue.

Motion: Commissioner Booth motioned to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Langley seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Adjourned at 9:38 PM

Respectfully submitted to you by:

Kathleen Mosher
Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

ADDENDUM 1

1. Budget Amendment, DSS
2. Health Fee Revision
3. Tax Collector Refunds Over \$100
4. Tax Assessor Refunds Over \$100
5. Surplus, Clerk of Court
6. Surplus, Public Works
7. Economic Development Advisory Committee Appointment
8. Board of Health Reappointments
9. Minutes Approval

Budget Amendment Request

Date of Request: October 4, 2021

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE OF ACCOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE
105441.561003	Independent Living LINKS (Exp.)	\$54,844	
100222.493674	LINKS Independent Living – Fed. (Rev.)	\$54,844	

State Position No. _____

APPROVAL	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Head	<i>Melanie Cooper</i>	9/21/2021
Finance Officer		
	This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.	
County Manager	Required for interdepartmental transfers.	
Board of Commissioners	Agenda Item No. _____ Reference No. _____	



**NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

**SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services**

September 17, 2021

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

SUBJECT: Time-Limited Flexibility for use of Supplemental Chafee (LINKS) Funding

REQUIRED ACTION: ☒ Immediate

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 116-260) enacted on December 27, 2020, provides supplemental appropriations for the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood and allows flexibility on the spending of those funds that expires on September 30, 2021.

Young adults who are or were in foster care have been in foster care have experienced job loss and other impacts of the pandemic and many of them have not benefited from prior COVID relief efforts, including stimulus checks. On September 10, 2021 NC DHHS, NC DSS sent a Dear County Director letter instructing counties to provide one-time unrestricted payments to this population of very vulnerable young adults.

All young adults who are at least 18 years old and are not yet 27 and were in foster care at age 14 or older are eligible. Assessment of financial need is not required, and no county match is required.

The amounts of one-time unrestricted payments per eligible young adult which may be made under this program are as follows:

- Eligible young adults 18-20--\$2,500.00
- Eligible young adults 21-26--\$5,000.00

Required Steps

As funding for these young adults expires September 30, 2021, specific steps must be followed to ensure funds are obligated and counties are reimbursed timely. County departments of social services must complete the following steps:

1. Conduct diligent efforts to identify, locate, and reach out to eligible young adults. Diligent efforts to conduct outreach means those efforts that are reasonably likely to identify, locate, and inform young adults of these payments for which they are eligible.
2. Create a financial obligation (check requisition, purchase request, etc.) for each eligible young adult located who will be receiving the one-time unrestricted payment by September 30th, 2021. This does not require counties to cut a check by September 30th, only to create the obligation.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 2409 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2409

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6390 • FAX: 919-733-3052

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

3. Complete the attached DSS-5217a Request for Payment of Time-Limited Supplemental LINKS Funds.
4. Submit completed DSS-5217a and copies of each check requisition via email to linksreimbursement@dhhs.nc.gov by September 30, 2021. These can be submitted at any time, they should not need to be held.

After the request forms are received NC DSS will submit to the DHHS Controller's Office for payment to counties. Counties will receive these payments through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). There is no 1571 reporting requirement for these funds.

These funds are capped, 100 percent federal funds with no county match required. Attached is a spreadsheet showing budgeted funds, per county. Counties will be reimbursed only up to their per-county budget amount. As counties are reviewing their situation, please communicate budget needs via the LINKS email so we may evaluate total funds availability and attempt to redirect funds as time allows.

If you have any questions, please contact LeAnn McKoy, Foster Care 18-21 Coordinator at leann.mckoy@dhhs.nc.gov or by phone at (919) 527-6375 or Shirley Williams, Special Programs Manager at shirley.williams@dhhs.nc.gov or by phone at (919) 527-6404. You may also contact your Regional Child Welfare Consultant.

Sincerely,

Carla McNeill

Carla McNeill, MSW
Section Chief for Permanency Planning
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human
Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Richard Stegenga, Deputy Director, Business Operations
Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Child Protective Services and Prevention
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

Attachments:

- DSS-5217a Request for Payment of Time-Limited Supplemental LINKS Funds

CWS-37-2021

County	21-22 Regular LINKS Allocation		Supplemental 21-22 LINKS Allocation	
Alamance	\$	18,172.00	\$	72,688.00
Alexander	\$	7,652.00	\$	30,608.00
Alleghany	\$	8,258.00	\$	33,032.00
Anson	\$	1,798.00	\$	7,192.00
Ashe	\$	10,370.00	\$	41,480.00
Avery	\$	6,154.00	\$	24,616.00
Beaufort	\$	13,711.00	\$	54,844.00
Bertie	\$	2,596.00	\$	10,384.00
Bladen	\$	6,951.00	\$	27,804.00
Brunswick	\$	17,531.00	\$	70,124.00
Buncombe	\$	58,168.00	\$	232,672.00
Burke	\$	29,078.00	\$	116,312.00
Cabarrus	\$	18,370.00	\$	73,480.00
Caldwell	\$	26,238.00	\$	104,952.00
Camden	\$	2,899.00	\$	11,596.00
Carteret	\$	10,015.00	\$	40,060.00
Caswell	\$	4,000.00	\$	16,000.00
Catawba	\$	40,412.00	\$	161,648.00
Chatham	\$	17,535.00	\$	70,140.00
Cherokee	\$	13,418.00	\$	53,672.00
Chowan	\$	3,601.00	\$	14,404.00
Clay	\$	5,758.00	\$	23,032.00
Cleveland	\$	35,509.00	\$	142,036.00
Columbus	\$	15,565.00	\$	62,260.00
Craven	\$	18,420.00	\$	73,680.00
Cumberland	\$	140,073.00	\$	560,292.00
Currituck	\$	4,653.00	\$	18,612.00
Dare	\$	6,505.00	\$	26,020.00
Davidson	\$	29,746.00	\$	118,984.00
Davie	\$	10,061.00	\$	40,244.00
Duplin	\$	9,360.00	\$	37,440.00
Durham	\$	64,685.00	\$	258,740.00
Edgecombe	\$	8,003.00	\$	32,012.00
Forsyth	\$	43,556.00	\$	174,224.00
Franklin	\$	11,961.00	\$	47,844.00
Gaston	\$	66,148.00	\$	264,592.00
Gates	\$	2,319.00	\$	9,276.00
Graham	\$	5,149.00	\$	20,596.00
Granville	\$	6,105.00	\$	24,420.00
Greene	\$	5,451.00	\$	21,804.00
Guilford	\$	86,697.00	\$	346,788.00
Halifax	\$	9,413.00	\$	37,652.00
Harnett	\$	27,668.00	\$	110,672.00
Haywood	\$	15,310.00	\$	61,240.00
Henderson	\$	32,055.00	\$	128,220.00
Hertford	\$	2,149.00	\$	8,596.00
Hoke	\$	10,557.00	\$	42,228.00
Hyde	\$	2,149.00	\$	8,596.00

Iredell	\$	20,527.00	\$	82,108.00
Jackson	\$	10,816.00	\$	43,264.00
Johnston	\$	46,572.00	\$	186,288.00
Jones	\$	1,447.00	\$	5,788.00
Lee	\$	6,249.00	\$	24,996.00
Lenoir	\$	13,461.00	\$	53,844.00
Lincoln	\$	19,710.00	\$	78,840.00
Macon	\$	6,058.00	\$	24,232.00
Madison	\$	11,656.00	\$	46,624.00
Martin	\$	7,302.00	\$	29,208.00
McDowell	\$	22,175.00	\$	88,700.00
Mecklenburg	\$	124,138.00	\$	496,552.00
Mitchell	\$	11,351.00	\$	45,404.00
Montgomery	\$	3,951.00	\$	15,804.00
Moore	\$	5,755.00	\$	23,020.00
Nash	\$	13,013.00	\$	52,052.00
New Hanover	\$	60,218.00	\$	240,872.00
Northampton	\$	1,447.00	\$	5,788.00
Onslow	\$	41,984.00	\$	167,936.00
Orange	\$	16,476.00	\$	65,904.00
Pamlico	\$	2,197.00	\$	8,788.00
Pasquotank	\$	2,898.00	\$	11,592.00
Pender	\$	18,216.00	\$	72,864.00
Perquimans	\$	1,447.00	\$	5,788.00
Person	\$	14,817.00	\$	59,268.00
Pitt	\$	47,601.00	\$	190,404.00
Polk	\$	9,407.00	\$	37,628.00
Randolph	\$	25,792.00	\$	103,168.00
Richmond	\$	8,664.00	\$	34,656.00
Robeson	\$	40,780.00	\$	163,120.00
Rockingham	\$	21,487.00	\$	85,948.00
Rowan	\$	28,065.00	\$	112,260.00
Rutherford	\$	27,527.00	\$	110,108.00
Sampson	\$	17,179.00	\$	68,716.00
Scotland	\$	11,912.00	\$	47,648.00
Stanly	\$	3,600.00	\$	14,400.00
Stokes	\$	17,071.00	\$	68,284.00
Surry	\$	11,327.00	\$	45,308.00
Swain	\$	7,509.00	\$	30,036.00
Transylvania	\$	15,310.00	\$	61,240.00
Tyrrell	\$	1,845.00	\$	7,380.00
Union	\$	22,477.00	\$	89,908.00
Vance	\$	4,606.00	\$	18,424.00
Wake	\$	126,947.00	\$	507,788.00
Warren	\$	1,447.00	\$	5,788.00
Washington	\$	3,951.00	\$	15,804.00
Watauga	\$	10,210.00	\$	40,840.00
Wayne	\$	13,411.00	\$	53,644.00
Wilkes	\$	36,639.00	\$	146,556.00

Wilson	\$	8,903.00	\$	35,612.00
Yadkin	\$	14,370.00	\$	57,480.00
Yancey	\$	6,855.00	\$	27,420.00
Total	\$	2,020,725.00	\$	8,082,900.00

All are Overpayments. T/P over. paid

843632	578264	8/27/2021	0000011377-2021-0000-00	REI	#####	\$180.43
BOND, JAMES O JR 1307 KINGSBROOK RD GREENVILLE BEAUFORT NC 27858 P.N.# 6652-51-3968						
843597	578264	8/27/2021	0009001879-2021-0000-00	REI	\$170.00	\$170.00
ST'LUKE'S CHURCH OF CHRIST PO BOX 2144 WASHINGTON BEAUFORT NC 27889 P.N.# 5695-51-5745						
846174	578390	#####	00018796-2021-0000-	REI	\$323.10	\$255.99 No
CLARK, JOSEPH W 215 HOLLY DRIVE WASHINGTON BEAUFORT NC 27889 P.N.# 5683-09-5821						
847462	578480	#####	C9BEATB	0000011678-2021-0000-00	REI	##### \$148.15
James Boyd P.N.# 6636-16-4543						
845278	578336	9/7/2021	WKINION	0009541698-2021-0000-00	IND	\$941.03 \$864.89
DOUGLAS, ROSEMARIE EUBANKS 2091 BRADY RD WASHINGTON NC 27889 P.N.# N/A Ind P.N.#						
845246	578336	9/7/2021	WKINION	0000021331-2021-0000-00	BUS	##### \$260.25
BAY CITY CRAB CO INC PO BOX 610 ORIENTAL NC 2857 Business Income						
845063	578321	9/3/2021	C9BEATB	0000052433-2021-0000-00	REI	\$560.00 \$100.32
GENERATIONS FAMILY SERVICES INC 7283 NC HWY 42 W, STE 102-335 RALEIGH BEAUFORT NC 27603-7530 P.N.# 761						
844549	578300	9/1/2021	WKINION	0000034160-2021-0000-00	REI	##### \$501.80
CLARK, CHARLIE C HERMAN CLARK 3020 ALLENBY DR RALEIGH BEAUFORT NC 27604 P.N.# 5662-52-3522						
843848	578274	#####	C9BEATB	0000026144-2021-0000-00	REI	##### \$310.79
LEINER, MARION ROSS 84 CAPTAIN'S COVE WASHINGTON BEAUFORT NC 27889 P.N.# 6664-63-5669						
839227	578019	#####	9482760-2013-2013-0000-	REI	\$169.34	No
VIZUETH, CARLOS 21442 US HWY 264 E PINETOWN, NC 27865 P.N.# 6686-20-8842						
843156	578247	8/25/2021	0009523361-2017-0000-00	IND	\$120.89	\$120.89
RANIERO, NORA 203 WALTON LANE WASHINGTON NC 27889 Ind Property						
847248	578472	#####	00005894-2021-0000-	REI	#####	\$860.63 No
AFFILIATED MORTGAGE SERVICES PO BOX 428 ROCKY MOUNT NC 27802 P.N.# 6537-29-7658						
847247	578472	9/21/2021	0000044691-2021-0000-00	REI	\$762.39	\$762.39
AFFILIATED MORTGAGE SERVICES PO BOX 428 ROCKY MOUNT NC 27802 P.N.# 6623-55-6248						
847242	578472	#####	00034639-2021-0000-	REI	\$968.40	\$121.89 No
AFFILIATED MORTGAGE SERVICES PO BOX 428 ROCKY MOUNT NC 27802 P.N.# 6695-10-2327						

PIN# 7612-25-2348



North Carolina Vehicle Tax System

NCVTS Pending Refund report

Report Date
9/24/2021

Payee Name	Secondary Owner	Address 3	Refund Type	Bill #	Plate Number	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Create Date	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
COX BUILDERS INC		WASHINGTON, NC 27889	Proration	0057347127	JZ1835	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0057347127-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	08/25/2021	G01	Tax	(\$138.11)	\$0.00	(\$138.11)
									F63	Tax	(\$8.92)	\$0.00	(\$8.92)
									E02	Tax	(\$10.87)	\$0.00	(\$10.87)
										Refund		\$157.90	
										Refund Total		\$157.90	



North Carolina Vehicle Tax System

NCVTS Pending Refund report

Report Date 9/24/2021

Payee Name	Primary Owner	Secondary Owner	Refund Type	Bill #	Refund Description	Refund Reason	Create Date	Tax Jurisdiction	Levy Type	Change	Interest Change	Total Change
CHAMPACO, DAVID CLYDE	CHAMPACO, DAVID CLYDE	CHAMPACO, SANDRA RUTH	Proration	0060503260	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0060503260-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/08/2021	G01 F63 ER	Tax Tax Tax	(\$113.79) (\$7.34) (\$8.96)	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	(\$113.79) (\$7.34) (\$8.96)
HILL, WILLIAM VANCE	HILL, WILLIAM VANCE		Proration	0053095741	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0053095741-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/17/2021	G01 F60 E12	Tax Tax Tax	(\$372.07) (\$25.20) (\$29.30)	Refund \$0.00 \$0.00	\$130.09 (\$372.07) (\$25.20)
MEEKINS, BROWNIE EUGENE	MEEKINS, BROWNIE EUGENE	MEEKINS, DEBORAH WILLIAMS	Proration	0052876235	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0052876235-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/08/2021	G01 F63 E05	Tax Tax Tax	(\$223.10) (\$14.40) (\$12.30)	Refund \$0.00 \$0.00	\$426.57 (\$223.10) (\$14.40)
MEEKINS, BROWNIE EUGENE	MEEKINS, BROWNIE EUGENE	MEEKINS, DEBORAH WILLIAMS	Proration	0060197395	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0060197395-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/08/2021	G01 F63 E05	Tax Tax Tax	(\$129.13) (\$8.34) (\$7.12)	Refund \$0.00 \$0.00	\$249.80 (\$129.13) (\$8.34)
SHAW, CYNTHIA ROSS	SHAW, CYNTHIA ROSS	SHAW, LAWRENCE DAVID	Proration	0059367352	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0059367352-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/02/2021	G01 F63 E05	Tax Tax Tax	(\$204.88) (\$13.23) (\$11.29)	Refund \$0.00 \$0.00	\$144.59 (\$204.88) (\$13.23)
SMITHWICK, BRYAN JR	SMITHWICK, BRYAN JR		Proration	0058938322	Refund Generated due to proration on Bill #0058938322-2020-2020-0000-00	Vehicle Sold	09/01/2021	G01 F61	Tax Tax	(\$157.02) (\$15.70)	Refund \$0.00 \$0.00	\$229.40 (\$157.02) (\$15.70)
											Refund Total	\$1353.17

Date run: 9/24/2021 9:58:56 AM

TR-406A Refund Detail Report

NCPTS V4

August 20, 2021 - September 23, 2021

Report Parameters: Refund Status: ONHOLD

Default Sort-By: Refund date, Refund Recipient Name, Refund Recipient Address

Trans #	Refund Recipient Name	Refund Address	Refund Description	Opid	Transaction Finance sent Date	Refund Amount (\$)
845263	CHOCOWINITY SOLAR LLC	02 ENERGIES INC PO BOX 1395 CORNELIUS, NC 28031	Refund on Bill # 0009522840-2021-2021-0000-00	DPCADJ	9/7/2021 7:00:08 PM	1,866.71
845269	WILKINSON SOLAR LLC	TAX DEPT PO BOX 27026 RICHMOND, VA 23261	Refund on Bill # 0009543186-2021-2021-0000-00	DPCADJ	9/7/2021 7:00:08 PM	17,860.86
846589	THE PAMLICO ROSE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	7532 HOLLINDALE COURT ALEXANDRIA, VA 22306	Refund on Bill # 0000027740-2020-2020-0000-01	DPCADJ	9/16/2021 7:00:11 PM	202.73

\$ 19,930.30

STATEMENT OF INTEREST TO SERVE

If you are a Beaufort County resident and would like to volunteer your time and expertise to your community, please complete and return to:

Beaufort County Board of Commissioners
C/O Katie Mosher, Clerk to the Board
121 W 3rd Street
Washington, NC 27889

Please list in order of preference the boards or commissions for which you would be willing to serve:

1. Economic Development Advisory Board 2. _____
3. _____ 4. Any/All Boards/Committees (check if applicable)

Note: By applying for the above listed boards and commissions, I have no known apparent or potential conflict of interest.

* If you are responding to specific criteria for a position, please explain further:

Full Name: John Rebholz Sex: Male
Residence Address: 203 Ashley Lane Race: Caucasian
City and Zip Code: Chocowinity 27817

Mailing Address (If different): _____
City and Zip Code: _____

Home Phone No.: _____
Cell Phone No.: 252-402-7617 _____
Work

Employer: Beaufort County, self-employed at Coastal Dealership Services and semi-retired
Email: john.rebholz@co.beaufort.nc.us

Do you live within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality? Chocowinity

Educational Background:

Name of High School Attended: St. Fredricks
Name of College Attended: Oakland University
Degree: BS in Business
Military Experience: US Army Reserve as a Medic

If you are presently serving as an elected or appointed official, please explain:
I am an elected member of the Beaufort County Board of Commissioners

Please list current/past employers and volunteer experience you have had which may be beneficial in evaluating your qualifications.

Work Experience

I spent 34 years working in various marketing, sales and customer service positions in large corporations. I also formed my own small business consulting company, focusing on sales, customer service and profitable.

Volunteer Experience:

- Served 7 years on the Cypress Landing HOA Board, 3 as president
- Treasure and President of Ruth's House Board of Directors
- Treasure of Open Door Homeless center for women
- Board member Inner Banks Legal services
- Elder and Deacon at First Presbyterian Church
- Board Member of the Beaufort County Community College foundation
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Beaufort County Republican party

If I am appointed to serve on one or more boards, I will agree by signing an Affirmation of Understanding and abiding by the Board of Commissioners policy for Appointment to Boards.

Signature: John Rebholz

Date: September 24, 2021

* Please feel free to attach a resume if so desired.

**** NOTE: When applying for a Beaufort County Board or Commission, your application is considered a public record. The Board Appointment Policy requires that applications be on file in the Clerk's office 15 days prior to consideration for appointment.**

*****Interest to Serve forms remain current for two (2) years. After two (2) years you should contact the Clerk to the Board's office to update your form.**

ADDENDUM 2

Bid-Offer to Purchase Property

BID/OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

The County of Beaufort has determined real estate as herein described now owned is not required for governmental purposes and is to be sold to the highest bidder subject to acceptance and confirmation as provided by NCGS 160A-266 & 268.

A bid should be submitted on this offer sheet. The Offeror shall deposit five percent (5%) of his bid payable to the County of Beaufort at the time of the offer submittal.

The County reserves the right to consider any offer and may at any time reject any and all offers.

Description: Tax Parcel # 6566-68-3675 1 lot #12 Royal
Deed Book 2075, Page 00399, Beaufort County Registry 21865
Property Address: SR 1916 OFF
Amount of Bid: \$ 100
Name of Person Submitting Bid: Dena Johnson
Address: 2296 Edgewater Dr Winterville, NC 28590
Telephone Number: 704-533-0654
Other Contact Information: Kevin Johnson 252-320-8875
Signature of Offeror: Dena Johnson
Amount Deposited (5%): 5
Date: 9/13/21

Property Summary

Tax Year: 2021

REID	21865	PIN	6566-68-3675	Property Owner	BEAUFORT, COUNTY OF
Location Address	0 SR 1916 OFF	Property Description	1 LOT #12 ROYAL	Owner's Mailing Address	PO BOX 633 WASHINGTON NC 27889

Administrative Data		Transfer Information		Property Value	
Plat Book & Page		Deed Date	8/24/2021	Total Appraised Land Value	\$3,000
Old Map #	NONE	Deed Book	002075	Total Appraised Building Value	
Market Area	EGLE	Deed Page	00399	Total Appraised Misc Improvements Value	
Township	Richland Township	Revenue Stamps	\$19	Total Cost Value	\$3,000
Planning Jurisdiction	BEAUFORT	Package Sale Date		Total Appraised Value - Valued By Cost	\$3,000
City		Package Sale Price		Other Exemptions	\$3,000
Fire District	RICHLAND FIRE	Land Sale Date	8/24/2021	Exemption Desc	
Spec District		Land Sale Price	\$9,500	Use Value Deferred	
Land Class	SINGLE FAMILY RES	Improvement Summary		Historic Value Deferred	
History REID 1		Total Buildings	0	Total Deferred Value	
History REID 2		Total Units	0	Total Taxable Value	
Acreage	0.21	Total Living Area	0		
Permit Date		Total Gross Leasable Area	0		
Permit #					

Photograph

No Photo Found

Building Summary

Misc Improvements Summary

Card #	Unit Quantity	Measure	Type	Base Price	Eff Year	Phys Depr (%) Bad)	Econ Depr (%) Bad)	Funct Depr (%) Bad)	Common Interest (%) Good)	Value
No Data										
Total Misc Improvements Value Assessed:										

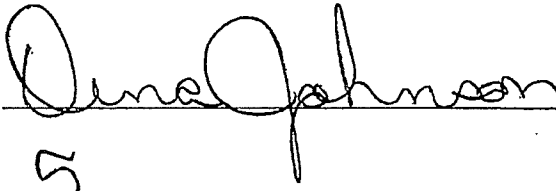
Land Summary

BID/OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

The County of Beaufort has determined real estate as herein described now owned is not required for governmental purposes and is to be sold to the highest bidder subject to acceptance and confirmation as provided by NCGS 160A-266 & 268.

A bid should be submitted on this offer sheet. The Offeror shall deposit five percent (5%) of his bid payable to the County of Beaufort at the time of the offer submittal.

The County reserves the right to consider any offer and may at any time reject any and all offers.

Description: Tax Parcel # 7606-91-0020 | Lot 524 Elm St
Deed Book 2075, Page 00401, Beaufort County Registry Reel 29102
Property Address: 524 Elm St
Amount of Bid: \$ 100
Name of Person Submitting Bid: Dena Johnson
Address: 2296 Edgewater Dr Winterville, NC 28590
Telephone Number: 704-533-0654
Other Contact Information: Kevin Johnson 252-320-8875
Signature of Offeror: 
Amount Deposited (5%): 5
Date: 9/13/21

Property Summary

Tax Year: 2021

REID	29102	PIN	7606-91-0020	Property Owner	BEAUFORT, COUNTY OF
Location Address	524 ELM ST	Property Description	1 LOT 524 ELM ST	Owner's Mailing Address	PO BOX 633 WASHINGTON NC 27889

Administrative Data		Transfer Information		Property Value	
Plat Book & Page		Deed Date	8/24/2021	Total Appraised Land Value	\$6,075
Old Map #	NONE	Deed Book	002075	Total Appraised Building Value	
Market Area	BATZ	Deed Page	00401	Total Appraised Misc Improvements Value	
Township	Town of Belhaven	Revenue Stamps	\$10	Total Cost Value	\$6,075
Planning Jurisdiction	BEAUFORT	Package Sale Date		Total Appraised Value - Valued By Cost	\$6,075
City	TOWN OF BELHAVEN	Package Sale Price		Other Exemptions	\$6,075
Fire District		Land Sale Date	8/24/2021	Exemption Desc	
Spec District		Land Sale Price	\$5,000	Use Value Deferred	
Land Class	SINGLE FAMILY RES	Improvement Summary		Historic Value Deferred	
History REID 1		Total Buildings	0	Total Deferred Value	
History REID 2		Total Units	0	Total Taxable Value	
Acreage	0.13	Total Living Area	0		
Permit Date		Total Gross Leasable Area	0		
Permit #		Photograph			

No Photo Found

Building Summary

Misc Improvements Summary

Card #	Unit Quantity	Measure	Type	Base Price	Eff Year	Phys Depr (%) Bad)	Econ Depr (%) Bad)	Funct Depr (%) Bad)	Common Interest (%) Good)	Value
No Data										

Total Misc Improvements Value Assessed:

Land Summary

BID/OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

The County of Beaufort has determined real estate as herein described now owned is not required for governmental purposes and is to be sold to the highest bidder subject to acceptance and confirmation as provided by NCGS 160A-266 & 268.

A bid should be submitted on this offer sheet. The Offeror shall deposit five percent (5%) of his bid payable to the County of Beaufort at the time of the offer submittal.

The County reserves the right to consider any offer and may at any time reject any and all offers.

Description: Tax Parcel # 1 Lot 810 Old County Rd
Deed Book 0116E, Page 00113, Beaufort County Registry LEID 28699
Property Address: 960 W Old County Rd
Amount of Bid: \$ 100
Name of Person Submitting Bid: Dena Johnson
Address: 2296 Edgewater Dr Winterville, NC 28590
Telephone Number: 704-533-0651
Other Contact Information: Kevin Johnson 252-370-8875
Signature of Offeror: Dena Johnson
Amount Deposited (5%): 5
Date: 9/1/2021

Tax Year: 2021

REID	28699	PIN	7606-33-8631	Property Owner	BEAUFORT, COUNTY OF
Location Address	960 W OLD COUNTY RD	Property Description	1 LOT 810 OLD COUNTY ROAD	Owner's Mailing Address	PO BOX 633 WASHINGTON NC 27889

Administrative Data		Transfer Information		Property Value	
Plat Book & Page		Deed Date	8/24/2021	Total Appraised Land Value	\$10,672
Old Map #	NONE	Deed Book	002075	Total Appraised Building Value	
Market Area	BATZ	Deed Page	00403	Total Appraised Misc Improvements Value	
Township	Town of Belhaven	Revenue Stamps	\$10	Total Cost Value	\$10,672
Planning Jurisdiction	BEAUFORT	Package Sale Date		Total Appraised Value - Valued By Cost	\$10,672
City	TOWN OF BELHAVEN	Package Sale Price		Other Exemptions	\$10,672
Fire District		Land Sale Date	8/24/2021	Exemption Desc	
Spec District		Land Sale Price	\$5,000	Use Value Deferred	
Land Class	SINGLE FAMILY RES	Improvement Summary		Historic Value Deferred	
History REID 1		Total Buildings	0	Total Deferred Value	
History REID 2		Total Units	0	Total Taxable Value	
Acreage	0.22	Total Living Area	0		
Permit Date		Total Gross Leasable Area	0		
Permit #		Photograph			

No Photo Found

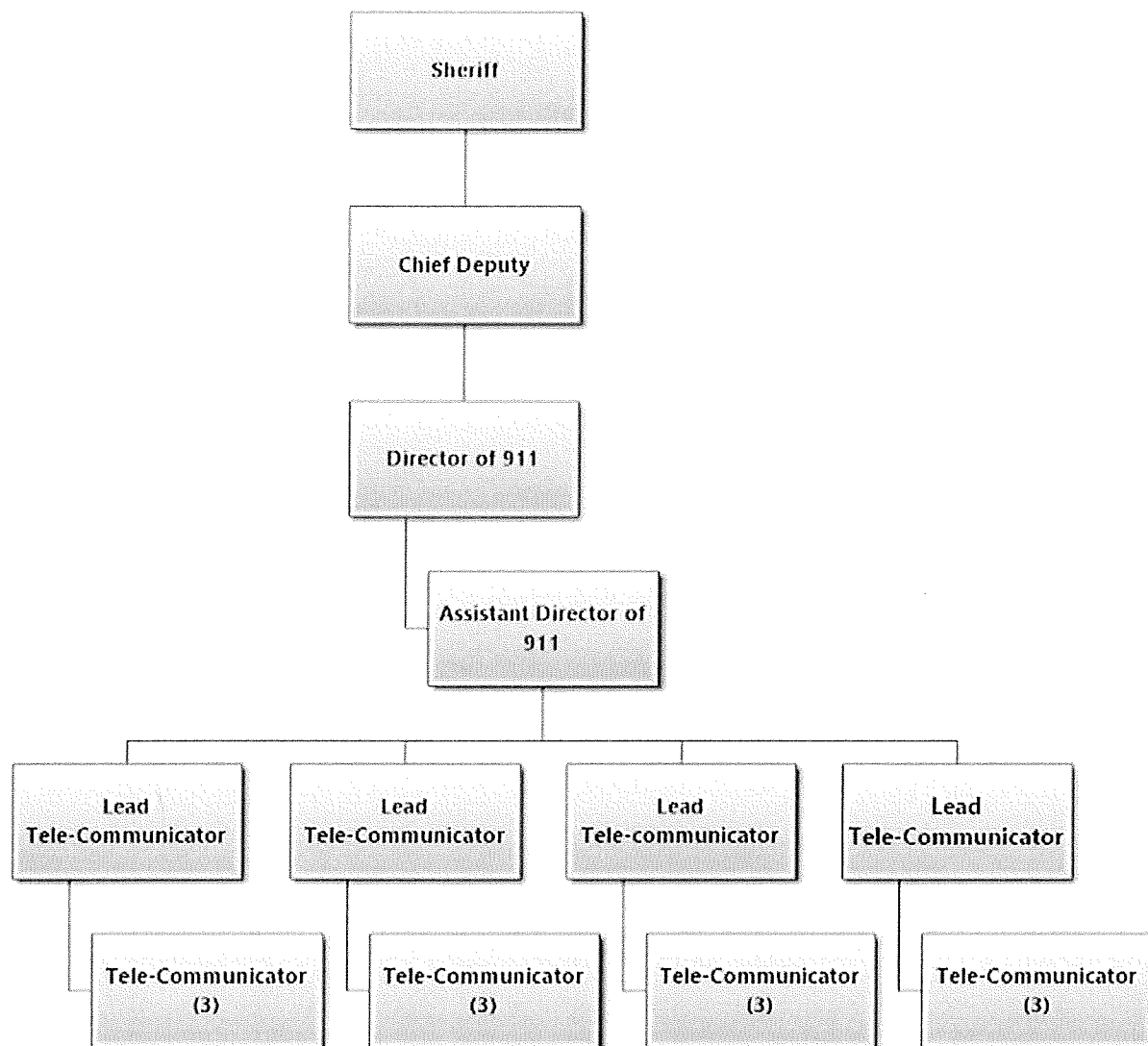
Building Summary

Misc Improvements Summary

Card #	Unit Quantity	Measure	Type	Base Price	Eff Year	Phys Depr (%) Bad)	Econ Depr (%) Bad)	Funct Depr (%) Bad)	Common Interest (%) Good)	Value
No Data										
Total Misc Improvements Value Assessed:										

ADDENDUM 3

Classification Addition to Salary Grade List



BEAUFORT COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: ASSISTANT 911 COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER BEAUFORT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GENERAL STATEMENT OF JOB

Under limited supervision, performs responsible supervisory and administrative work in coordinating and directing the Communications Division. Work involves assisting with developing, coordinating, and supervising emergency communications activities and personnel; recommends acquisition and use of communications equipment; and coordinating preparation of plans for communications in response to natural and manmade disasters. Employee is also assists with administrative functions of the Division, including personnel administration, budget preparation and expenditure approval, purchase of supplies, etc. Work also involves administering routine personnel matters, including instructing, assisting, training, and advising Division personnel, reviewing performance, and recommending personnel actions. Employee is on-call after regular work hours on a rotating basis to respond to emergency situations. Reports to the 911 Communication Manager.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Assist Manager to oversee, plans, designs, to develop and execute a comprehensive emergency communications program, including new or modified radio and telephone emergency communications systems to receive and transmit messages for emergency response personnel, ensuring adherence to applicable laws, rules regulations, policies, and procedures; recommends changes and implements policies and standard operating procedures for Division; participates in operation of equipment, as needed. Responsible for the professional operation of County's sole public safety answering point 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Includes emergency 9-1-1 response dispatching of all resources, volunteer and municipal fire departments, contract and municipal emergency medical service squads, Quick Response Vehicle(s), and (includes transfer of law enforcement calls to County-wide law enforcement departments and municipal law enforcement departments).

Assists with and/or assigns, trains, directs, schedules, and supervises activities of subordinate Telecommunicators and supervisory personnel, ensuring adherence to established laws, policies, procedures, and standards; assists and advises subordinates, as necessary, resolving problems as non-routine situation arise.

Assists with and/or assumes command and directs all communications activity during major incidents, as required.

Administers routine personnel matters affecting subordinates, including interviewing applicants, hiring, promoting, disciplining, evaluating, terminating, etc., preparing and submitting various reports and records as required. Approves employee time sheets, and grants compensatory, sick or vacation leave.

Reviews availability of emergency communications equipment and computer hardware and software;

evaluates equipment needs and makes recommendations to Sheriff for equipment acquisitions and upgrades; ensures proper installation of new equipment; maintains inventory and oversees maintenance of assigned County-owned communications equipment. Supervises and coordinates operations of County 911 emergency lines, emergency dispatch, and emergency communication systems; advises and consults with emergency response personnel and officials and other governmental agencies in operational matters; ensures compliance with applicable FCC codes and regulations; assigns user codes for communications and associated computer systems; oversees maintenance of systems.

Prepares and submits various reports as required by local, state, and federal governments; oversees filing and maintenance of reports, records, and other documents as required by federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

ADDITIONAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Represents Sheriff's Office on various committees, panels, commissions, etc., attending meetings and providing input based on expertise and observations, as appropriate; advises other counties in development of 911 programs.

Makes oral presentations to school, church, civic and business organizations, as appropriate, on topics pertaining to departmental communications.

Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

The individual will have a minimum of 5 years increasingly responsible professional experience in an Emergency Communications Center at a supervisor level role or above. A bachelor's degree is highly preferred. NC 911 Management Certification or ability complete within a reasonable period; any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. Possession of a valid North Carolina Driver License.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Emergency Medical Dispatch certification/re-certification as required by the National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch.

Emergency Telecommunicator Dispatch certification/re-certification as required by the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OR STANDARDS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Physical Requirements: Must be physically able to operate a variety of machinery and equipment including computers, printers, loggers, facsimile machines, radio-telephone consoles, hand tools, etc. Must be able to exert up to 20 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 10 pounds of force frequently, and/or a negligible amount of force constantly to move objects. Physical demand requirements are in excess of those

for Sedentary Work. Light Work usually requires walking or standing to a significant degree. However, if the use of arm and/or leg controls requires exertion of forces greater than that for Sedentary Work and the worker sits most of the time, the job is rated for Light Work.

Data Conception: Requires the ability to compare and/or judge the readily observable, functional, structural, or composite characteristics (whether similar or divergent from obvious standards) of data, people, or things.

Interpersonal Communication: Requires the ability to speak and/or signal people to convey or exchange information. Includes giving instructions, assignments, or directions to subordinates or assistants.

Language Ability: Requires the ability to read a variety of reports, correspondence, logs, personnel records, invoices, manuals, schematics, handbooks, trade publications, statutes, minutes, etc. Requires the ability to prepare correspondence, technical and narrative reports, forms, flow charts, diagrams, purchase orders, personnel forms, etc., using prescribed formats. Requires the ability to speak to groups of people with poise, voice control and confidence.

Intelligence: Requires the ability to apply rational systems to solve problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists; to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral diagrammatic or schedule form. Must have a proven track record in 911 Center management and be adept at understanding and applying technological solutions to problems.

Verbal Aptitude: Requires the ability to record and deliver information, to explain procedures, to follow oral and written instructions. Must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in a variety of technical or professional languages including medical and engineering technology and emergency response codes.

Numerical Aptitude: Requires the ability to utilize mathematical formulas; to add and subtract; to multiply and divide; to calculate decimals and percentages; to interpret graphs; to perform calculations involving variables, formulas, square roots, and polynomials.

Form/Spatial Aptitude: Requires the ability to inspect items for proper length, width, and shape.

Motor Coordination: Requires the ability to coordinate hands and eyes rapidly and accurately in using office and communications equipment.

Manual Dexterity: Requires the ability to handle a variety of office equipment, communications equipment, control knobs, switches, etc. Must have minimal levels of eye/hand/foot coordination.

Color Discrimination: Requires the ability to differentiate between colors and shades of color.

Interpersonal Temperament: Requires the ability to deal with people beyond giving and receiving instructions. Must be adaptable to performing under stress and when confronted with persons acting under stress, and in emergency situations.

Physical Communication: Requires the ability to talk and hear: (Talking: expressing or exchanging ideas by means of spoken words. Hearing: perceiving nature of sounds by ear.) Must be able to communicate via

telephone and two-way radio.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Thorough knowledge of the practices, procedures, standards, and regulations regarding emergency communications coordination at the local government level.

Thorough knowledge of rules, regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

Thorough knowledge of the operation of a wide variety of communications equipment.

Through knowledge of the NC 911 Board and its list of approved expenditures for “special revenue” monies.

Ability to exercise sound judgement and remain calm under the stress of emergency situations.

Performs routine updates and maintenance of the CAD, E911 telephone system, and the digital voice logging system, performing necessary updates and backups when needed.

Thorough knowledge of the ethical guidelines applicable to the position as outlined by professional organizations and/or federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

Thorough knowledge of the operation, licensing, and maintenance of two-way radio communication systems.

Considerable knowledge of the geographical layout of the County and all political subdivisions.

Considerable knowledge of the locations and capabilities of available law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency medical units.

Considerable knowledge of Fire and EMS operational practices.

Considerable knowledge of the current literature, trends, and developments in the field of emergency communications planning and management.

Considerable knowledge of the principles of supervision, organization, and administration.

Ability to use common office machines, including popular computer-driven database and file maintenance programs.

Ability to deal effectively with fire and rescue department personnel, volunteers, public officials, law enforcement agencies and the general public in a friendly, professional manner.

Ability to react promptly and effectively in a disaster situation. Responds to emergency response calls, providing instructions on firefighting or handling of hazardous materials response work, etc.

Ability to plan and coordinate efficient and effective emergency communications activities during natural and man-made disasters.

Ability to supervise the work of subordinate personnel.

Ability to maintain moderately complex records and to prepare and submit reports.

Ability to effectively express ideas orally and in writing.

Ability to exercise tact, courtesy, and firmness in frequent contact with representatives of governmental agencies, civic groups, and the general public.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships as necessitated by work assignments.

ADDENDUM 4

Legends and Lore Marker Land Permission Letter

Brian Alligood

From: Berekia Divanga <bdivanga@washingtonnc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 8:01 PM
To: Brian Alligood
Cc: Jonathan Russell
Subject: Legends & Lore Marker Grant - Land Permission Letter
Attachments: BHM Library - Old Courthouse.png; Land Permission Letter Sample.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Beaufort County system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Brian:

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing because the City intends to apply for the Legends & Lore® Marker Grant Program through the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to **install a marker by BHM Library**. The purpose of this marker would be to highlight the story about the Ghost of Reverend George Carawan, which has been reported to haunt the old courthouse (now called BHM Library).

As part of this application, the City is required to submit a Land Permission Letter, which is essentially a letter signed by the landowner/property owner demonstrating that the City of Washington has permission to install a Legends & Lore marker on the site. I have attached an aerial map to help visualize the proposed location and a sample for the letter that we are requesting.

Would you be able to write this letter on behalf of the landowner - Beaufort County in this case - or facilitate a meeting with the appropriate representative so that we may request this letter? Thank you.

Best regards,

Berekia Divanga

Grants Assistant
City of Washington
bdivanga@washingtonnc.gov
2529759321



September __, 2021

William G. Pomeroy Foundation
492 E. Brighton Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13210

Dear William G. Pomeroy Foundation:

I, *(Property owner name)*, own the property at *(address)* and I give the *City of Washington* permission to install a Legends & Lore marker on my property should they receive funding from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

Sincerely,

(Property owner's signature)



83

X

and nearby places

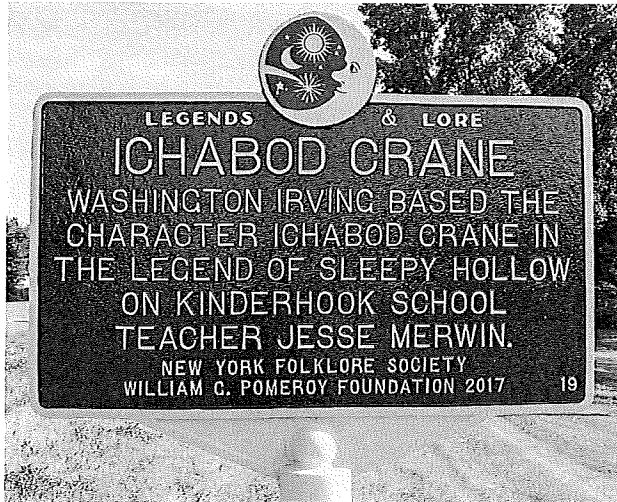
Washington
North Carolina
35.543083, -77.054570

☒

Show route preview

Legends & Lore® Marker Grant Program

[About](#) [Our Partners](#) [FAQ](#)



Does your community have a great piece of folklore that should be shared? Legends & Lore is designed to promote cultural tourism and commemorate legends and folklore as part of our heritage.

Generally speaking, folklore is the stories, customs, traditions, and expressive arts and crafts that are passed on from one person to another, often from generation to generation. Folklore is the knowledge that people share as members of a group or community. Our shared identities and sense of belonging are the result of shared traditions, stories, customs, and activities.

[Apply for Grant](#)

Legends & Folklore Guidelines

The most successful applications will likely include the following common genres of folklore:

- **Myths** — traditional stories that usually concern the nature of the cosmos; they often involve divine and supernatural beings.
- **Legends** — traditional stories that usually concern historical events; they often involve heroes, heroines, villains, and monsters, including ghosts or haunted places.
- **Tall tales** — traditional stories similar to legends that exaggerate the lives of local people.
- **Folktales** — traditional stories such as fables and fairy tales that occur “outside” of cosmic or human history; they often involve animals or symbolic creatures as the main characters.
- **Place-name anecdotes** — traditional stories that explain the reason for the name of a location.
- **Folksongs and ballads** — traditional stories told in song that often convey myths, legends, and related folklore.
- **Superstitions** — folk beliefs that may or may not have scientific accuracy but that are important to the community that believes in them.
- **Festivals, holidays, parades, and rituals** that represent a community.
- **Certain dances, music, architecture, foodways, arts, crafts** and similar performances can be folklore if they distinguish the community or region as the “home” of the item or activity.

Subjects which are not successful include:

- **Historical events** lacking a folkloric aspect
- Purely **literary creations**
- **Personal/family folklore** which does not extend to the greater community

Eligibility

Legend & Lore grants are available to 501(c)(3) organizations, nonprofit academic institutions, and local, state and federal government entities within the United States. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact an eligible local organization, such as an applicable historical society or folklore-related nonprofit. They will often apply for the grant on behalf of the individual.

Please note that Legends & Lore is currently available in the following 11 states: Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Louisiana, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont and West Virginia. Check back regularly for program availability in your state.

Marker Design and Text Guidelines

The color of Legends & Lore markers are deep red with light beige lettering and border. Markers are 18" x 32" cast aluminum with a 7' aluminum pole.

The title line allows 15 characters and the five body lines can have 27 characters each, including spaces and punctuation. There is a required credit line at the bottom of the marker which is always included.

Application Deadline

Applications are accepted twice a year. This year's dates are as follows:

Round 1

- 03/22/21 – Application becomes available online
- 05/03/21 – Application deadline
- 06/28/21 – Grants awarded (approximate)

Round 2

- 08/16/21 – Application becomes available online
 - 10/11/21 – Application deadline
 - 12/10/21 – Grants awarded (approximate)
-

Grant Application Procedure

Applications are only accepted online. To create an account and apply, please use this link:

[Apply for Grant](#)

Applications must include the following:

- the applying agency's information
- contact information for the person responsible for the application
- proposed installation location in specific detail (including GPS coordinates)
- a brief description and significance of the folklore being commemorated
- proposed inscription for marker

Additional required documents are:

- an IRS Determination Letter [for 501(c)(3) organizations only]
- a letter from the landowner granting permission for the marker to be installed

Primary sources are not required for this grant program.

Legends & Lore marker grants are fully-funded and cover the entire cost of the marker, pole, and shipping. If your application is approved, and upon receipt of your signed Acceptance Letter, the Foundation will mail a check for the total amount made payable to the applying agency. Marker order instructions will be provided via email. The grant recipient is responsible for installation of the marker.

Become a Legends & Lore Partner

As we expand nationally, we seek to partner with folklore organizations, folklore-related academic departments and state supported councils & agencies to evaluate Legends & Lore grant applications and promote the program statewide. Visit the [Legends & Lore partners](#) page for details, benefits and eligibility.

Questions?

Contact Christy at info@wgpfoundation.org or 315-913-4060, Monday – Friday between 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (EST)