

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Hertford County Board of Commissioners  
County Commissioners' Meeting Room  
Monday, November 3, 2014  
9:00 A.M.

Present: William F. Mitchell, Jr., Ronald J. Gatling, Johnnie R. Farmer, Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., and Howard J. Hunter, III

Absent: None

Also Present with the Board: Loria D. Williams, County Manager; M. Ray Wiggins, Assistant County Manager; Charles L. Revelle, III, County Attorney; and Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Chairman William F. Mitchell, Jr., called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., provided the invocation for the meeting.

**MINUTES**

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- (1) October 06, 2014 – Regular Meeting
- (2) October 20, 2014 – Regular Meeting

**PERSONNEL**

Leah Craddock, Human Resources Director, introduced the following new County employees:

EMS	Victoria Farless (Part-time)
Social Services	Betty Williams (Full-time) (Transfer from Administration)
	Whitney Smith (Full-time)
Emergency Mgmt.	Pamela Carr (Full-time)

**VETERANS**

Captain Walter Rodriguez, from the North Carolina Central University School of Law Veterans Law Clinic, was present to share the story and sacrifice with the Board of Mr. Jason Smallwood, an Afghanistan Veteran who lived in Como, NC. He was accompanied by four law students and the parents of Jason Smallwood. Mr. Rodriguez

shared with the Board the commendations Mr. Smallwood had received, including the Purple Heart. He had been involved in the taking out of Al Qaeda; had been involved in explosions; and risked his own life to protect his fellow soldiers.

Mr. Smallwood suffered from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and eventually took his own life. Mr. Rodriguez's goal is to make everyone aware of how veterans are not being acknowledged the way they should and how the Army and Veterans Administration are turning their back on soldiers suffering from PTSD.

Mr. Rodriguez asked the Board to consider approving a resolution honoring Mr. Jason Smallwood and to consider assisting with establishing a memorial in Hertford County to recognize our fallen Veterans.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve passing a resolution honoring Jason Smallwood and urging the State and Federal Governments to provide more assistance to soldiers suffering from PTSD.

Commissioners Freeman and Gatling spoke of their acquaintance with Mr. Smallwood and their agreement with soldiers deserving more recognition and assistance.

## **SCHOOLS**

Ms. Cindy Martin, Finance Director with Hertford County Schools, was present requesting approval of an ADM Application for School Technology. This will be the last drawdown from ADM monies.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ADM Application for the One-to-One Technology Initiative for \$202,142.53 as requested by Hertford County Schools.

## **HEALTH AUTHORITY**

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following Public Health Authority Proposed Fee Changes for Water Analysis Tests as presented by Ed Evans, Environmental Health Specialist:

### PROPOSED FEE CHANGES FOR WATER ANALYSIS (2015)

	<u>Old Cost</u>	<u>Charged</u>	<u>New Cost</u>	<u>Proposed Change</u>
Bacteriologic	\$ 2.50	\$50.00	\$23.00	\$ 75.00
Inorganic	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$100.00
Pesticide	\$19.48	\$50.00	\$74.00	\$100.00
Petroleum	\$23.00	\$50.00	\$74.00	\$100.00

VOC                      \$24.00                      \$50.00                      \$74.00                      \$100.00

**COUNTY PROPERTY**

Sara Turner, GIS Director, submitted to the Board the entries for the Road Naming Contest at the new Courthouse/Government Center location. She reviewed a list of qualified names, as well as a list of disqualified names per the rules of the contest.

The Board will make the final decision in the near future.

**RECREATION**

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following Memorandum of Understanding as presented by Loria Williams, County Manager:

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**Between Hertford County and Rehoboth Educational Services Childcare Program**

**Whereas, Rehoboth Educational Services Childcare Program**, a for-profit daycare agency, located at 415 East Holloman Avenue, Ahoskie, N.C., provides a vital service to the citizens of Hertford County by providing daycare services for working parents of the County; and

**Whereas**, in order to meet state licensing requirements, said Agency must provide adequate recreational space and amenities for children being served within said facility; and

**Whereas**, Hertford County is desirous to assist the Agency by providing recreational space to meet this requirement for its continued service to working parents throughout the County.

**Now, Therefore**, it is hereby agreed by and between the parties that:

Hertford County shall:

1. Provide the utilization of a 70' X 90" plot (Exhibit A) of county-owned property a portion of PIN# 5996-71-6107 for use by the Agency for the purpose of providing recreational amenities for daycare participants only.
2. Provide this plot of land at no cost to the Agency.
3. Have the right to inspect the premises at reasonable times throughout the duration of this agreement

Rehoboth Educational Services Childcare Program shall:

1. Indemnify and hold harmless Hertford County against any and all liabilities loss, damage and expenses incurred or suffered by the Agency and its

participants or for any accident, injury or damage to persons or personal property occurring upon these premises from the Agency's use, occupancy or activities upon these premises. Rehoboth shall provide evidence of liability insurance with Hertford County as an additional insured.

2. Use the premises for participant recreational purposes only.

### **Voluntary Termination**

This MOU is a nonbinding agreement that both parties have entered into in good faith. Either party may terminate from the agreement with or without cause, without penalty or liability, by so notifying the other in writing. Written notice shall be sent sixty (60) day prior to the termination.

### **Term and Amendment**

This Memorandum represents the entire understanding of both parties with respect to this Agreement and will remain in effect until notice of termination by either party. Any modification of this Memorandum must be in writing and signed by both parties.

Approved this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2014.

### **COUNTY PROPERTY/TAX FORECLOSURES**

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the bid of \$1,500 from Edmond Earl Watford on the Kay Frances Scott tax foreclosure property (PIN #5968-45-5728).

### **COUNTY PROPERTY/TAX FORECLOSURES/VILLAGE OF COFIELD**

Loria D. Williams, County Manager, presented a letter from the Village of Cofield detailing property ordinance violations at the property once belonging to Wesley Ray Stewart (but now owned by Hertford County due to tax foreclosure). This matter will be discussed in Closed Session.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

The County Manager shared the Annual Report from the Adult Care and Nursing Home Community Advisory Committees. She explained that this committee had been through a transition period and that the report is not glowing due to the fact that a full committee had not been in place. New members have now been appointed and training is scheduled in which Ms. Williams will be in attendance. She has also reviewed the large training manual that is used and is planning to get a condensed version to all appointees.

Vice-Chairman Gatling is upset that nothing has been done since the last annual report that was not favorable. He questioned how much more time is needed. There was much discussion among all Commissioners regarding training; role of the Commissioners; areas of concern listed on report; etc.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

- Commissioner Freeman questioned the Courthouse project and the County Manager informed everyone that substantial completion is December 1. She urged for attendance of a Commissioner at the next OAC Meeting being held on November 20
- Commissioner Hunter discussed Secretary of Commerce Sharon Decker's visit to Hertford County
- Vice-Chairman Gatling discussed the DuPont L. Davis Park Dedication and that trash cans, picnic tables, etc. will be needed. It was mentioned to check with the prison to see what they may be able to provide.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Closed Session as allowed under G. S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the County Attorney and (6) to discuss personnel matters.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Minutes of Closed Session are on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.