



Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

June 3, 2024

MINUTES

1. ADOPT SUGGESTED AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Hunt, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the June 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Suggested Agenda was approved.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing for Warren County Occupancy Tax (5%)

1. Comments From Staff

Community & Economic Development Director Charla Duncan provided an overview of the proposal for Occupancy Tax in Warren County.

2. Citizen Comments

- Brady Martin, Economic Development Commission Chair, stated that the Economic Development Commission is in support of the 5% Occupancy Tax to be charged on short-term rentals in Warren County.
- Angelena Kearney-Dunlap stated that the benefits of this Occupancy Tax far outweigh the cons of enacting the Occupancy Tax. She further stated that she recommends a fair and equitable distribution of the revenues received so that the whole county will benefit.
- Neal Anderson stated that the county should allow seasonal residents the right to vote so that they can have a say in things like the Occupancy Tax.
- Vielka Gabriel-Alston thanked Ms. Duncan for clarifying the Occupancy Tax. She further stated that this may be an opportunity for those owning property other than lake property to realize the value of their property.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS - REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Rules for Citizen Comments: Please sign up to speak. The maximum time allotted to each speaker will be FIVE (5) minutes; Clerk to the Board will keep time. Any group of people who support or oppose the same position should designate a spokesperson. Please address only those items which might not have been addressed by a previous speaker. If a response from the County Manager and/or Board is desired, leave a copy of your comment(s) with the Clerk to the Board. Order and decorum will be maintained. This is not a question and answer session.

Reinaldo Espinosa stated he was injured at a festival held at the Lions Den and that our insurance company has stated they will only pay \$1,000. He stated that Paula Pulley has not contacted him anymore about the incident. Mr. Espinosa then asked the Board to move forward with district voting for Commissioner seats. Espinosa feels district voting would be more fair to those living in each district. Mr. Espinosa stated that the county needs to put leadership in place that know what they are doing, and that a forensic audit should be conducted.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Consider Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting, May 8, 2024 Budget Work Session, and May 22, 2024 Budget Work Session

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and duly carried by unanimous

vote, the minutes of the May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting, May 8, 2024 Budget Work Session, and May 22, 2024 Budget Work Session were approved as presented.

B. Tax Collector's Report for April 2024 presented for Board's information in accordance with NCGS 105-350 (John Preston, Tax Administrator)

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the Tax Collector's Report for April 2024 was approved.

C. Tax Release Requests (over & under \$100) in accordance with NCGS 105-381 "Taxpayer's Remedies" as information only (John Preston, Tax Administrator)

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the Tax Release Requests (over & under \$100) were approved.

5. COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATE – Crystal Smith

Interim County Manager Crystal Smith stated that the County Manager position has been posted and several applications have been received.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consider Approval of Verizon Water Tower Lease Agreement Renewal - Public Utilities - Eric St. Sing

On motion of Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Baker, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the Verizon Water Tower Lease Agreement Renewal was approved.

B. Consider Approval of Resolution to Levy a 5% Occupancy Tax - Charla Duncan, Community & Economic Development Director

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Baker, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the Resolution to Levy 5% Occupancy Tax was approved.

C. Consider Adoption of Local Water Supply Plan (LWSP) for NCDEQ - Utilities - Eric St. Sing

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Hunt, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the Local Water Supply Plan (LWSP) for NCDEQ was approved.

7. BOARD, COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS AND RE-APPOINTMENTS

A. Consider Appointment of Dr. Kara Henderson to the Economic Development Commission for a First Term Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2027

On motion of Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and duly carried by unanimous vote, Dr. Kara Henderson was appointed to the Economic Development Commission for a first term beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

B. Consider Re-Appointment of Candace White, Member At-Large, to the Warren County Board of Health for a Second Term Beginning June 1, 2024 and Ending May 31, 2027

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and duly carried by unanimous vote, Candace White was appointed to the Board of Health as Member At-Large for a second term beginning June 1, 2024 and ending May 31, 2027.

C. Consider Appointment to the Vance Granville Community College Board of Directors

Chairman Pierce stated that Warren County will be asked to name one voting member to the Vance Granville Community College Board of Directors and asked the Commissioners to think about who should be recommended to represent Warren County.

8. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' UPDATES

There were no Commissioner updates.

9. ADJOURN June 3, 2024 BOARD MEETING

On motion of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the June 3, 2024 Regular Meeting was adjourned.

Paula Pulley, Clerk to the Board

