



Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

April 16, 2025

MINUTES

The April 16, 2025 Work Session was called to order by Chair Angelena Kearney Dunlap, followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance included Commissioners Baker, Hunt, Cooper, and Davis, County Attorney Shiekell Richardson, and County Manager Crystal Smith.

1. PRESENTATIONS

A. Davenport Financial Update

Davenport Financial provided an overview of the financial standing of Warren County. A copy of the report was provided to Commissioners and a copy is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

B. Vance Granville Community College Updates

Vance Granville Community College President Dr. Rachel Desmarais stated that VGCC is now the 3rd largest Community College system in North Carolina. Dr. Desmarais discussed the current offerings.

2. ADOPT SUGGESTED AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Baker, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the April 16, 2025 Work Session Suggested Agenda, with the addition of Item G4, Consider Approval of Appointment of Secondary Alternate to the Planning Board, was approved.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Proposed Amendments to the Boards/Committees/Commissions Appointment and Re-Appointment Policy - Clerk to the Board Paula Pulley and County Attorney Shiekell Richardson

Commissioner Davis asked that the wording in Section 4.3F be changed to remove "and must abide by", and to strike out "at least 10 days prior" in Section 4.3A. The Commissioners asked that the red-lined version showing the changes to the policy be brought back to the May 5, 2025 Board of Commissioners meeting.

B. Proposed Amendments to the Volunteer Policy - Clerk to the Board Paula Pulley and County Attorney Shiekell Richardson

Commissioners asked that language be added concerning Student/Youth Volunteers. In Section 3.3, the Board asked that it be stated that middle school age and younger volunteers will require supervision. This policy will be brought back to the Board at the May 5, 2025 Board of Commissioners meeting.

C. Proposed Amendments to Parks & Recreation Rental Fees Schedule - Brett Garrett, Parks & Recreation Director

On motion of Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the amendments to the Parks & Recreation Rental Fees Schedule were approved.

D. Lottery Fund Expansion Discussion

Chair Kearney Dunlap noted that funding for schools is being reduced federally so there is a need to look into expanding lottery funds to cover costs. By consensus, the Board of Commissioners agreed to lobby for more access to lottery funds. This will be discussed further with the Warren County Board of Education.

E.

Request for Update to Personnel Manual – Section 7-5: Pre-65 Retiree Health Insurance Benefits - Sierra Thomas, Human Resources Director

Human Resources Manager Sierra Thomas provided information to the Board about Pre-65 Retiree Health Insurance Benefits. This item will be discussed further during FY26 Budget preparations.

F. Consider Reappointment of Johnny Short, Magnolia Jackson, Keisha Baskerville, and Ashley Young, and First-Time Appointment of Tyrone Melton to the Soul City Fire Tax Board for Three-

Year Terms Beginning April 1, 2025 and Ending March 31, 2028

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Hunt, and duly carried by unanimous vote, Johnny Short, Magnolia Jackson, Keisha Baskerville, and Ashley Young were re-appointed and Tyrone Melton was appointed for the first time to the Soul City Fire Tax Board for three-year terms beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2028.

G. Consider Appointments to Planning Board

Statements of Interest Received from Dan Swango, David Williams, Jessica Lynn Harvey, William Lovelace, Terry Grizzard, Phil Mendys, Evelyn Woodson, and Sharon Britt.

1. Consider Appointment to the Unexpired Term of William Landis Ending January 31, 2026.

Planning Board Recommends Jessica Lynn Harvey to Fill the Unexpired Term. Planning Director Mark Bloomer Recommends Either Dan Swango or Terry Grizzard to Fill the Unexpired Term.

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried by unanimous vote, Jessica Lynn Harvey was appointed to fill the unexpired seat of William Landis on the Planning Board ending January 31, 2026.

2. Consider Appointment of Primary Alternate to Three-Year Term on the Planning Board Beginning May 1, 2025 and Ending April 30, 2028. Planning Board Recommends William Lovelace to fill the Primary Alternate Position. Planning Director Mark Bloomer Recommends William Lovelace as Primary Alternate.

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the appointment of William Lovelace as Primary Alternate to the Planning Board for a three-year term beginning May 1, 2025 and ending April 30, 2028 was approved.

3. Consider Appointment to the Two-Year Term on the Planning Board Expiring May 31, 2025 Currently Held by Evelyn Woodson. Planning Board Recommends Re-Appointment of Evelyn Woodson to a Second Two-Year Term. Planning Director Mark Bloomer Recommends Either Dan Swango or Terry Grizzard to Fill the Two-Year Term.

Commissioner Davis asked that Item G3 and Item G4 be combined.

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and carried by a 4-1 vote, Lauren Miller was moved from Regular Member of the Planning Board to Secondary Alternate to fulfill the remainder of her term ending January 31, 2026, Dan Swango was appointed to a first three-year term on the Planning Board beginning April 2025 and ending March 2028, and Terry Grizzard was appointed to a first two-year term on the Planning Board beginning June 1, 2025 and ending May 31, 2027.

Commissioner Hunt cast the nay vote, not in opposition to the appointments, but in opposition to the procedures used.

4. ADJOURN April 16, 2025 BOARD MEETING

On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the April 16, 2025 Work Session was adjourned.

Paula Pulley, Clerk to the Board