

**Minutes of the  
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates  
October 15, 2020 6:00 P.M.**

**Opening**

Chairperson Tracey Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation**

Commissioner Fondella Leigh led the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Linda Hofler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Determination of Quorum**

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator, Ashley Stallings, with nine (9) Members present.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Harriett DeHart	Chowan
Elizabeth White	Currituck
Rob Ross	Dare
Linda Hofler	Gates
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
Fondella Leigh	Perquimans
Jordan Davis	Tyrrell
Tracey A. Johnson	Washington

**Absent Members**

Clayton Riggs	Camden
Sandra Duckwall	Camden
Owen Etheridge	Currituck
Howard Swain	Dare
Earl Pugh	Hyde

**Partners, staff, and guests present:**

Attorney John Leidy of Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland

**Staff members:**

Michael Ervin, Executive Director  
David Whitmer, NWDB Director  
Angela Welsh, ARPO Director  
Laura Alvarico, AAA Director  
Jeri Hansen, Finance Officer  
Ashley Stallings, Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator  
Sharon Smith, Special Projects Administrator

**Guests and Partners**

None.

**Agenda (VOTE):**

Commissioner Hofler motioned to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jordan Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

**September 2020 Minutes (VOTE)**

Commissioner Robert Kirby motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Leigh. With a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**New Business:**

**A. Greg Coltrain, Riverstreet Networks**

Executive Director Michael Ervin introduced Greg Coltrain from Riverstreet Networks. Riverstreet Networks is a Broadband service that currently serves part of our region. Riverstreet Networks is currently in negotiations with Albemarle EMC to provide further work in Perquimans County.

Mr. Coltrain presented to the Board information about the Broadband services Riverstreet Networks could provide our region. Mr. Coltrain also discussed a pilot program Riverstreet is currently running in Hyde County.

Executive Director Ervin thanked Mr. Coltrain for presenting to the Albemarle Commission's Board, and invited him to come back in the future to discuss further information about Riverstreet Networks.

**B. Budget Amendments FY 20-21 #2**

Chairperson Johnson opened the floor for discussion and any questions the Board may have had regarding the Amendments.

After much discussion, the Board decided to table the Budget Amendments until the November meeting.

Commissioner Hofler motioned to table the Budget Amendments until the November Board meeting, seconded by Commissioner Kirby. With a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**C. Rescind of the TDA Grant Request for Matching Funds**

Executive Director Ervin announced the TDA Grant request was denied. As a result, the \$40,000 matching funds that were previously committed by the Board must be rescinded by a vote.

Commissioner Davis motioned to rescind the TDA Grant Matching funds, seconded by Commissioner Hofler. With a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**A. Roadmap of Need Discussion**

Commissioner Rob Ross continued his discussion on the Roadmap of Need. Commissioner Ross asked if there was any determination of the Albemarle Commission parameters for providing assistance with Reading or Math for children. Attorney John Leidy stated he would research and bring any findings to the November meeting.

**Staff Reports**

Commissioner Ross asked Area Agency on Aging Director Laura Alvarico about AAA's spending per month. AAA Director Alvarico stated she didn't have that figure due to reassessment of clients. AAA Director Alvarico stated she would bring a figure to the November meeting.

**Report of the Executive Director:**

Executive Director Ervin discussed the Executive Director report.

Commissioner Davis asked Executive Director Ervin about the status of previous discussions in regards to the space issues. Commissioner Davis asked if we determined if the Albemarle Commission could own property or what we need to do to obtain more space. Attorney Leidy stated at the present time the Albemarle Commission does not have the authority to own real estate. The Albemarle Commission Charter will not allow it; however, it is an available power in the general statutes. Executive Director Ervin mentioned he is waiting on additional data, as well as additional information from the Perquimans County manager.

Commissioner Davis asked if the Board wanted to change the Charter, if it would have to go before each county for them to vote on that change. Attorney Leidy stated since it is an expressed purpose, 153a-395, the charter would have to be amended by approval of 100% of the counties.

**Committee Reports**

None.

**Board Member Comments:**

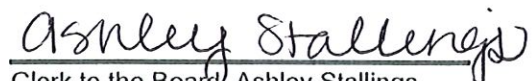
Commissioner Kirby mentioned Chowan County was awarded a \$15M grant for the new high school.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Davis motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Kirby at 7:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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Chairperson of the Board  
Tracey A Johnson

Attested by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board, Ashley Stallings

11/19/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

