

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
February 18, 2021 6:00 P.M.**

Opening

Chairperson Lloyd Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

Commissioner Fondella Leigh led the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Jordan Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Determination of Quorum

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator, Ashley Stallings, with fourteen (14) Members present.

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Clayton Riggs	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Owen Etheridge	Currituck
Rob Ross	Dare
Linda Hofler	Gates
Elizabeth Hedrick	Gates
Earl Pugh	Hyde
Janet Russ	Hyde
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
William Hoggard III	Pasquotank
Fondella Leigh	Perquimans
Connie Brothers	Perquimans
Jordan Davis	Tyrrell
Tracey A. Johnson	Washington

Absent Members

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

Alan Thompson: Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co (TPSA)

Agenda (VOTE):

Chairperson Griffin called for a vote by right-hand to pass the Agenda. All were in favor by raising their right hand, the Agenda was adopted.

January 2021 Minutes (VOTE)

Commissioner Davis motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Linda Hofler. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

New Business:

A. FY 2019-2020 Audit Presentation by Alan Thompson, TPSA

Alan Thompson presented the FY 2019-2020 completed audit performed by Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co. The Board accepted the completed audit.

B. Pay Classification Study Update

Executive Director Michael Ervin discussed the draft Pay Classification Study information received from Becky Veazey with The Management and Personnel Services Group (MAPS). Executive Director Ervin mentioned his plans to have a preliminary report in the coming week to provide to the Board.

C. Economic Development Grant – Sharon

Special Projects Administrator Sharon Smith spoke about the opportunity awarded to the Albemarle Commission from International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Special Project Administrator Smith discussed the monetary value of \$75,000; however, no monies will be awarded directly to the Commission. The project will provide technical assistance regarding pandemic recovery and resiliency that will be included in our next Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

D. Essential Single Family Rehab Loan Pool (ESFRLP) 2020-2021

Executive Director Ervin informed the Board of the opportunity to extend contracts for the ESFRLP. The NC Housing Authority has awarded funding for 5 counties for the 2021-2022 program year. Those counties are Camden, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, and Pasquotank.

Old Business:

A. Building Needs

Executive Director Ervin discussed current options for solving the building space needs of the Albemarle Commission.

Staff Reports

Finance Officer Jeri Hansen discussed the monthly finance report.

A. Finance Officer – FY 2020-2021 Budget Amendment #3 VOTE

Finance Officer Hansen explained the Budget Amendment #3.

Commissioner Earl Pugh motioned to approve Budget Amendment #3 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Davis. With a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Northeastern Workforce Developmental Board (NWDB) Director David Whitmer spoke briefly on the impacts NWDB has in the Community.

Commissioner Rob Ross commended NWDB Director Whitmer, Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director Laura Alvarico, and their staff on the excellent job being done given the circumstances of being in a pandemic.

AAA Director Alvarico spoke about the partnership with Inter-County Public Transportation Authority (ICPTA) and Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS). They are currently doing a "Reverse Clinic" to provide the COVID vaccine to those clients that are homebound.

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) Director Angela Welsh mentioned NCDOT projects are slowly coming back online. NCDOT's cash balance is beginning to stabilize; however, COVID hit their reserves, and things will remain slow for the next couple of years.

Board Member Comments:

Commissioner Pugh thanked Executive Director Ervin and Special Projects Administration Smith for attending a previous Hyde County Board Meeting. Commissioner Pugh mentioned Charter Communications received grant funding from the government for Hyde County. Commissioner Pugh mentioned COVID impacts.

At-Large Delegate Elizabeth Hedrick discussed the COVID vaccine clinics in Gates County.

Commissioner Hofler spoke about COVID in Gates County. Commissioner Hofler discussed the interest in Broadband in Gates County. Commissioner Hofler thanked Executive Director Ervin and Special Projected Admin. Smith for presenting at the Gates County Board Meeting.

At-Large Delegate William Hoggard spoke about COVID vaccine clinics in Pasquotank County.

Commissioner Davis discussed the flooding impacts in Tyrrell County. Commissioner Davis spoke about COVID vaccine clinics.

Commissioner Tracey Johnson discussed the limited COVID vaccines Washington County has received. Commissioner Johnson mentioned North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) chose Broadband as their number one goal. Commissioner Johnson had been selected to be on a panel for the Rural Center in March to discuss the issues in rural areas.

Commissioner Leigh thanked the Board for electing her as Secretary. Commissioner Leigh spoke about COVID in Perquimans County.

At-Large Delegate Janet Russ mentioned Hyde County is top per capita in the state for administering the COVID vaccine.

Commissioner Clayton Riggs discussed Broadband and 5G service.

Commissioner Bob Kirby discussed Elon Musk and the SpaceX program.

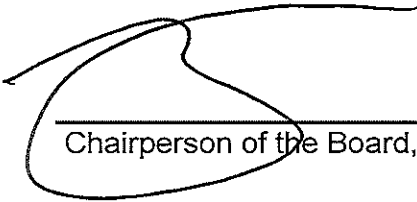
At-Large Delegate Connie Brothers spoke about pre-packaged meals she helped distribute to residents of Perquimans County. She was hopeful to be able to do this again once the weather breaks.

Commissioner Rob Ross discussed the COVID vaccine clinics ongoing in Dare County.

Commissioner Owen Etheridge mentioned the COVID vaccine clinics. Commissioner Etheridge commended ARHS for the job they are doing in Currituck County.

Adjournment

Chairperson Griffin adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.



Chairperson of the Board, Lloyd Griffin

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Ashley Stallings

3/18/2021
Date