

**Minutes of the  
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates  
November 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.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
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 M. Hood Ellis of Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland

**Staff members:**

Michael Ervin, Executive Director  
David Whitmer, NWDB Director  
Laura Alvarico, AAA Director  
Angela Welsh, RPO 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):**

Commissioner Davis motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tracey Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.

**October 2021 Minutes (VOTE)**

Commissioner Clayton Riggs motioned to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Linda Hofler. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Finance**

**A. Budget Amendment #5B (VOTE)**

Finance Officer Jeri Hansen presented Budget Amendment #5B to the Board.

At-Large Delegate William Hoggard motioned to approve the Budget Amendment as presented, seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

**A. Monthly Finance Report Ending October 31, 2021**

Finance Officer Hansen discussed the monthly finance report

**New Business:**

**A. Audit Presentation – Alan Thompson - Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co (TPSA)**

Alan Thompson presented the audit to the board.

Commissioner Johnson motioned to accept the audit as presented, seconded by At-Large Delegate Connie Brothers. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Selection of the Nomination Committee – Officers 2022**

Chairperson Griffin selected Commissioner Davis to create a nomination committee for the 2022 election of Officers.

**Staff Reports:**

NWDB Director David Whitmer discussed the potential consolidation of Workforce Development Boards across the state from 23, down to 8, based on the NC prosperity zones. Director Whitmer has concerns regarding the impact this change could potentially have on our region.

Chairperson Griffin proposed that each Board member should send letters from their counties opposing the consolidation of Workforce Development Boards.

AAA Director Laura Alvarico discussed ARPA funding, COVID vaccine outreach, and the close out of the CARES funding.

ARPO Director Angela Welsh mentioned a 2-year delay on the mid Currituck Bridge.

Special Projects Administrator Sharon Smith discussed Broadband funds that will be coming in.

**Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Michael Ervin discussed a grant partnership with Virginia. Executive Director Ervin also discussed monies that would be distributed throughout the region now that the NC State Budget has been passed. Finally, Executive Director Ervin discussed work being done with NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR).

**Board Member Comments:**

At-Large Delegate Elizabeth Hedrick reported Gates County is coming out of COVID with small

businesses opening and doing well. She also mentioned some economic development discussions within the county.

Commissioner Hofler reported a reduction in the loan that was taken out for Central Middle School. Gates County was awarded \$250,000.00 from Howard Hunter to rehab the Community Center.

Commissioner Davis discussed the low census numbers in Tyrrell County due to the loss of inmates that occurred when the prison shut down. Commissioner Davis also discussed a bridge being removed and the impacts it will have on the community surrounding it.

Commissioner Leigh discussed the \$4 million that will be used to expand the Marine Industrial Park in Perquimans County.

Commissioner Earl Pugh stated Hyde County had a good tourist season this year.

At-Large Delegate Janet Russ mentioned Senator Thom Tillis's representative, Trey Lewis, reported NC will receive \$400M over a 5-year span from the Infrastructure Bill; however, the money will be used for projects already in the pipeline.

Commissioner Riggs mentioned Camden County will need a new water treatment system with all the new building.

Commissioner Owen Etheridge reported the list of needs the Currituck School Board presented the Commissioners. Commissioner Etheridge mentioned the need to redo a sewer plant in Moyock.

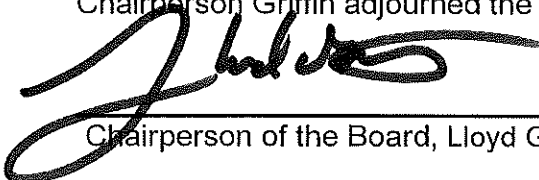
Commissioner Robert Kirby discussed the budget and children in foster care.

Commissioner Rob Ross reported Cape Hatteras has reached 3 million visitors so far this season. Commissioner Ross mentioned the remodel of the Graveyard Museum, and that the beach nourishment project came in lower than projected.

Chairperson Griffin discussed the monies coming to Pasquotank County with the approved state Budget. Chairperson Griffin mentioned Pasquotank County would be taking over the water system from South Mills for the northern end of Pasquotank County.

**Adjournment**

Chairperson Griffin adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.



Chairperson of the Board, Lloyd Griffin

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Ashley Stallings

1/20/22

Date

