

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
September 22, 2022 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 eight (8) Members present in person.

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Clayton Riggs	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Rob Ross	Dare
Linda Hofler	Gates
Earl Pugh	Hyde
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
William Hoggard III	Pasquotank
Fondella Leigh	Perquimans
Jordan Davis	Tyrrell
Ann Keyes – Alternate	Washington

Absent Members

Owen Etheridge	Currituck
Elizabeth Hedrick	Gates
Janet Russ	Hyde
Connie Brothers	Perquimans
Tracey A. Johnson	Washington

Partners, staff, and guests present:

Attorney Brock Mitchell of Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland

Staff members:

Michael Ervin, Executive Director
David Whitmer, NWDB Director
Laura Alvarico, AAA Director
Angela Welsh, RPO Director
Robin Sass, Finance Officer
Ashley Stallings, Clerk and Administrative & Benefits Coordinator
Sharon Smith, Special Projects Administrator
Ryan Albertson, Community Housing Coordinator
Tracy Wooten, Special Projects Coordinator
Courtney Smith, Broadband Project Coordinator

Guests and Partners

None

Bylaw Amendment to Allow for Electronic Meeting (VOTE)

Due to not having a super quorum in person this item was tabled until the October meeting.

Agenda (VOTE):

Commissioner Clayton Riggs motioned to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of item number 5 which should be tabled until the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Robert Kirby. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

July 2022 Minutes (VOTE)

Commissioner Riggs motioned to approve the Minutes as recorded, seconded by Commissioner Davis. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Old Business

Executive Director Michael Ervin introduced the Albemarle Commission's new Finance Officer, Robin Sass.

Finance

A. Monthly Finance Report Ending August 30, 2022

Finance Officer Robin Sass discussed the monthly finance report.

B. Budget Amendment #1B (VOTE)

Finance Officer Sass presented the budget amendment #2B to the board.

Commissioner Kirby motioned to approve Budget Amendment #2B as presented, seconded by At-Large Delegate William Hoggard. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

New Business

None.

Staff Reports:

Special Projects Administrator Sharon Smith introduced three new employees: Broadband Project Coordinator-Courtney Smith, Special Projects Coordinator-Tracy Wooten, and Community Housing Coordinator-Ryan Albertson. Special Project Administrator Smith also gave an overview of the work these new employees' will be working on throughout our region.

ARPO Director Angela Welsh mentioned the draft SITP is out for comments from the counties. ARPO Director Welsh also mentioned the Safe Routes to School Grant will be ending around November 2022.

NWDB Director David Whitmer announced NWDB was awarded the "Good Jobs Challenge" grant in partnership with Hampton Roads Workforce Investment Council and many other partners. NWDB's award share will be just under \$1M with the "Good Jobs Challenge" grant. NWDB Director Whitmer stated College of the Albemarle (COA) was one of the other partners with applying for this grant; COA will be awarded close to \$1M as well.

Area Agency on Aging Director Laura Alvarico congratulated the Executive Director Michael Ervin on winning the gold medal in Shot Put and Discus Throw at the NC State Senior Games. AAA Director Alvarico mentioned the partnership with Legal Aid of NC providing advance care planning workshops throughout our region. AAA Director Alvarico also mentioned AAA is partnering with the Health Department and OBX Hospital to provide a 5-week series on various aging topics on Ocracoke Island

during the months of October and November. AAA Director Alvarico announced receiving a \$40,000 grant from Foodlion to expand the Nutrition program for high-risk clients. AAA Director Alvarico also discussed receiving monies from the legislative funding for various housing projects and home improvement along with ARPA funding.

Executive Director Report

Commissioner Davis mentioned to the board he was approached by Sara Felts, with the upper leadership of the Eastern 4-H center. The Eastern 4-H Center has an advisory board, would like to have representation from this side of the sound.

Commissioner Kirby motioned to modify the agenda to add a request from the Eastern NC 4-H Center to add a member from the Northern Sounds to their advisory board, seconded by Commissioner Linda Hofler. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Davis motioned to allow Executive Director Michael Ervin and Special Projects Administrator Sharon Smith to dually serve as members on the Eastern NC 4-H Center advisory board, seconded by Commissioner Hofler. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Michael Ervin discussed Rural Partnership Network that was created by the USDA. Executive Director Ervin mentioned Albemarle Commission hosting the NC Regional COG Association Meeting October 5-7th in Dare County for the first time in 12 years.

Board Member Comments:

Commissioner Earl Pugh mentioned harvest season is going well. Commissioner Pugh mentioned Hyde County schools received \$8.3M from the 2022-2023 needs-based school capital for Mattamuskeet school. Commissioner Pugh also mentioned the Ferry was winding down. Hyde County was beginning to take application for the urgent needs grant for home repairs.

Commissioner Anne Keyes mentioned the start of the citizen's academy Monday night in Washington County. Commissioner Keys mentioned still working on the Commerce building and the new school.

Commissioner Riggs mentioned a large land transfer that would be for new homes in the Camden County.

Commissioner Kirby mentioned the Chowan County Fair beginning on September 28th-October 1st. Commissioner Kirby discussed housing at Sandy Point. Commissioner Kirby mentioned Chowan is getting ready to build a new High School.

Commissioner Rob Ross mentioned Dare County being in the development stages of building affordable housing. Commissioner Ross mentioned the dredge, "Ms. Katie", arrived to begin work.

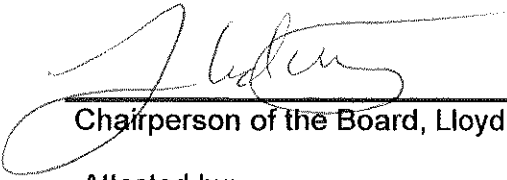
Commissioner Hofler announced Gates County receiving a \$9.8M school grant for additions and renovations.

Commissioner Davis discussed having a Local Government Commission meeting in the 4-H Center. Commissioner Davis mentioned Tyrell County receiving Great Grant funds to go to 1500 homes.

Commissioner Griffin discussed offshore wind and the potential impacts it could have in our region creating jobs.

Adjournment

At 7:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.



Chairperson of the Board, Lloyd Griffin

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Ashley Stallings

10-20-2022

Date