PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEMBERS PRESENT

MAY 17, 2021 OTHERS PRESENT

Gordon Powell Kyle W. Puryear C. Derrick Sims Charlie Palmer Patricia Gentry Heidi York, County Manager Brenda B. Reaves, Clerk to the Board S. Ellis Hankins, County Attorney

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in regular session on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 9:00am in the Person County Office Building Auditorium.

Chairman Powell called the meeting to order and recognized the County Attorney for an announcement. County Attorney, Ellis Hankins announced the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order No. 215 now allows individuals to attend public events, such as this County Commissioners' meeting without face coverings and without the previous social distancing requirement. He added that the Person County Board of Commissioners did not add to those restrictions imposed by the Governor and by the Governor's removal of those requirements thereby removes those restrictions locally without further action by the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Powell offered an invocation and Commissioner Sims led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairman Powell requested the need to add Closed Session #2 to the agenda relating to economic development.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Sims and **carried 5-0** to add Closed Session #2 to the agenda and to approve the agenda as adjusted.

INFORMAL COMMENTS:

The following individuals appeared before the Board to make informal comments:

Mr. John Seepe of 277 Barefoot Landing Lane, Semora spoke of the benefit of the recent presentation by Mr. Joe Hines related to the opportunities for the Mega Park site. He said he had not heard anything regarding the status of the RFP released for the economic development shell building nor had he heard about the question Commissioner Palmer inquired related to school funds. Mr. Seepe addressed the permitting process as discussed at the last Board's meeting noting no one could answer the question related to when the new software system, Energov, would be up and running.

Ms. Janna Kisner of 200 Semora Road, Roxboro, and a member of the Friends of the Parks stated her full and enthusiastic support of proposed Falls Watershed Regulations Interim Alternative Implementation Approach possible projects as it is an opportunity for Person County to capitalize on the outdoor beauty, green space for the community's health and wellbeing noting parks and trails are underestimated.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Sims and **carried 5-0** to approve the Consent Agenda with the following items:

- A. Budget Amendments #16 and #17,
- B. Home & Community Care Block Grant Funding Revision 2020-2021 for the Dept. of Social Services for a total of \$38,627 for In-Home Aid Level II and III Personal Care, and
- C. Timberlake Firefighters' Relief Fund Board of Trustees Appointment

NEW BUSINESS:

BROADBAND UPDATE – RIVERSTREET NETWORKS:

Assistant County Manager, Katherine Cathey stated at the Board's Retreat, the Board asked to hear updates from providers in Person County; she noted the Board had heard updates from Spectrum and CenturyLink and would now hear an update from RiverStreet Networks regarding their current deployment of broadband service across Person County as well as their future goals for broadband service expansion.

Ms. Cathey introduced Mr. Bill Shillito, Business Development Manager for RiverStreet Networks, who attended the meeting remotely and would present information on the following topics:

- Woodland, Mt. Tirzah, Bethel Hill and Bushy Fork towers and public wi-fi hotspots are fully operational.
- Currently in the process of establishing the final public wi-fi hotspot (Uptown Roxboro location).
- Leasing space on Oak Lane Tower (owned by American Tower) near Hyco Lake.
- Constructing new tower in southeastern Person County.

Mr. Shillito shared the following presentation with the group:



PERSON COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT (PCAN) AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW UPDATE

BILL SHILLITO - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER GREG COLTRAIN - VP BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

May 17th, 2021

WILKES TMC MISSION STATEMENT

"TO PROVIDE EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICEAND ADD VALUE TO THE LIVES OF OUR CUSTOMERS"

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RiverStreet

RIVERSTREET MISSION

"TO SERVE THE UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED"

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RiverStreet NETWORKS





Greetings Bill Shillito,

We are actively working to complete the transition of Lightleap by NC Wireless, LLC to RiverStreet Networks. In the next few weeks, the billing cycle will be converted to the new system. Click here for information on how to view and pay your bill.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 844-238-0131 to speak with a Sales and Support Representative.

Sincerely, RiverStreet Networks

RiverStreet

Person County Advanced Network(PCAN) Update and Overview

- Goals and Aims:
 - → Purpose: Develop The Next Generation Broadband Infrastructure to meet the technological needs of current and future business, public institutions, educational institutions, and local residents.
 - → PCAN Goals: Create a scalable network solution, Foster Economic Growth, Foster Development in new areas of the County, provide reliable service for 15+ years
 - → Grant: \$254,000 by Person County (Person County Advanced Network)
 PCAN
 - → Match: \$254,000 by NC Wireless

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RiverStreet

Person County Advanced Network(PCAN) Update and Overview

- Funds Expended To Date:
 - → PCAN Funds expended to date: \$209,985.24 (disbursed thru six cost reviews, and check releases) no change since last briefing.
 - → NC Wireless Funds expended to date: \$197,423.46, \$233,465.00, \$243,635.00.
 - → Remaining PCAN Funds: \$44,014.76 no change since last briefing
 - → Remaining NC Wireless Match: \$56,576.54+ \$20,535.00, \$10,365.00
 - → Any additionally requested PCAN Funds will be in the form of new client adds at \$250.00/new client.
 - → The transition.....LightLeap to RiverStreet

RiverStreet

CURRENT STANDARD PRICING



RiverStreet

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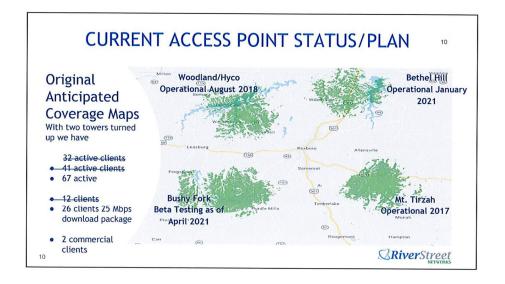
NEW RIVERSTREET BROADBAND PRICING

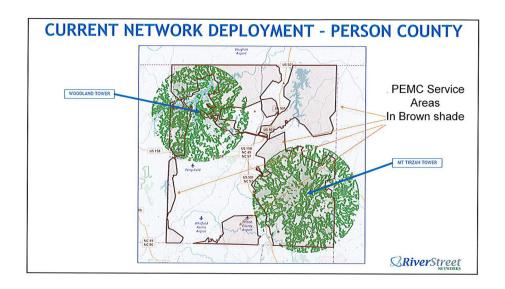
Tier 1: 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload at \$75.00 Month

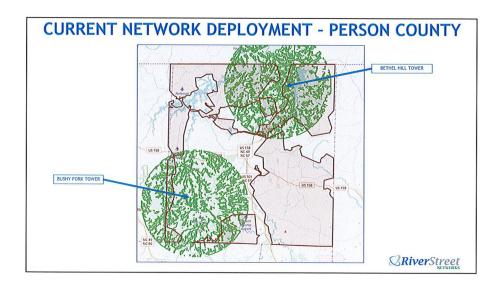
Tier 2: 50 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload at \$95.00 Month

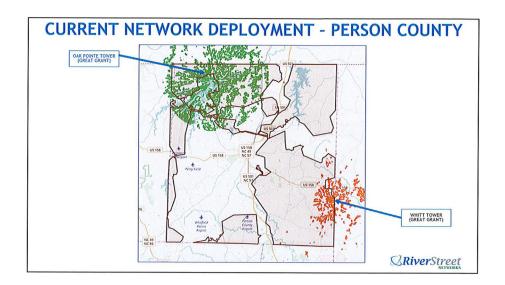
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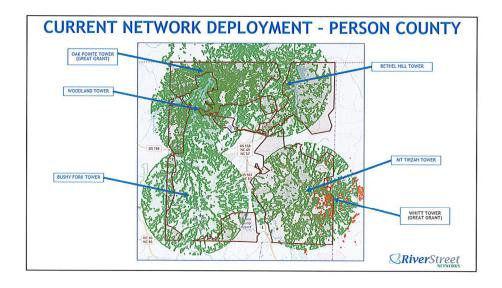
RiverStreet NETWORKS

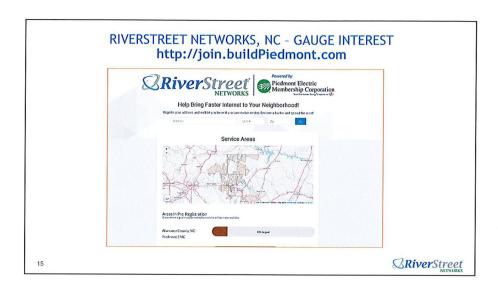












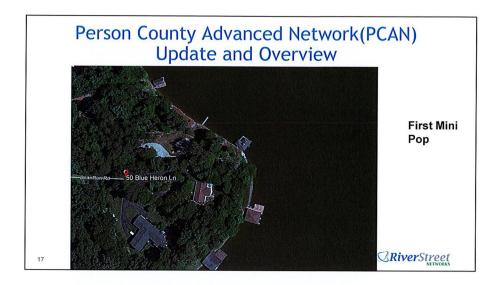
Person County Advanced Network(PCAN) Update and Overview

Looking Forward. The Good News/Updates

- → RiverStreet Networks (RSN) Acquired NC Wireless
- → RSN Acquired Fiber IRU from Person County. In use as of April 2021
- → RSN proposes new standard pricing. In effect for new clients June1,2021.
- → RSN has strong Marketing Process and Budget. Will Rebrand the Service in the near future. Proposed Timeline for Advertising has begun.
- → RSN hired a full-time field technician for Person County. Fully active in community.
- → Better Potential Customer Consolidation Planning Tool (Crowd Source) in use
- → RiverStreet Networks first Mini-Pop established.

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RiverStreet



Person County Advanced Network(PCAN) Update and Overview

Looking Forward. The Good News/Updates

- → GREAT Grant Effect shown on previous maps
- → GREAT Grant and other funding potentially available.
- → Great Partnership with PEMC continues.
- → PEMC added a WiFi hotspot at PEMC location on Oxford Road with assistance from RSN to support student access to internet
- → Initial Fiber Backhaul out of Bethel Hill was 100 Mbps x 100 Mbps. Recent upgrade with Centurylink for 200 Mbps x 200 Mbps. Project Complete.
- → Contract in place for initial introduction of 500 Mbps by 500 Mbps at NOC.
- → WiFi Hotspot for downtown Roxboro planned and equipment purchase order released.

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RiverStreet

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When asked about filling the gaps for those residents that are unserved or underserved, Commissioner Gentry asked Mr. Shillito what could be done to which he stated a mini access point was an option that could provide access to services for up to six households each.

Vice Chairman Puryear asked Mr. Shillito about the service range and Mr. Shillito noted the need for a clear line of sight of 2.5 to 3 miles. Mr. Shillito further noted they would assess on site with a test to determine if service was available.

Vice Chairman Puryear asked Mr. Shillito if there were anyone preventing increased coverage to which Mr. Shillito said in his experience there were more efforts to reduce the barriers for more signals.

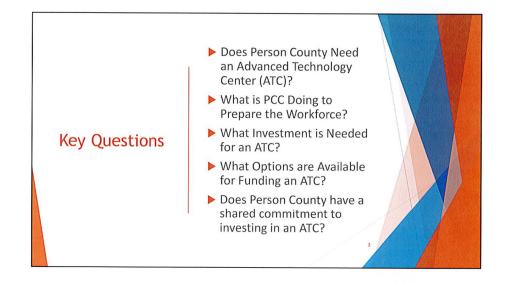
Chairman Powell stated he get more reports of unhappy customers of CenturyLink and asked if there was any suggestions to help improve access to better services. Commissioner Gentry stated one effective way to get providers to respond was to log an online complaint on the FCC web site.

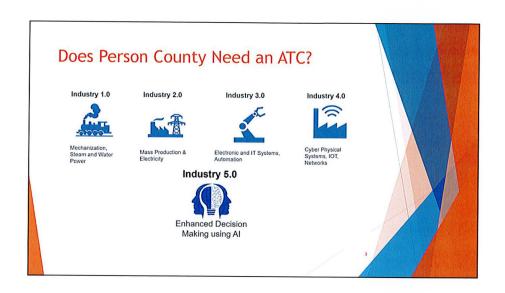
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Dr. Pamela Senegal, President of Piedmont Community College (PCC) shared the following presentation to update the Board of Commissioners on the feasibility study and PCC's plans that are underway to identify funding in support of an Advanced Technology Center (ATC) for economic and workforce development in the region.

Dr. Senegal recognized members of the PCC Board of Trustees, present in the audience, Ron Booker, Tanya Evans and Phillip Allen.









Does Person County Need an ATC?





Pictures from PCC's welding lab, BRCC Environmental Health and Safety report 2018

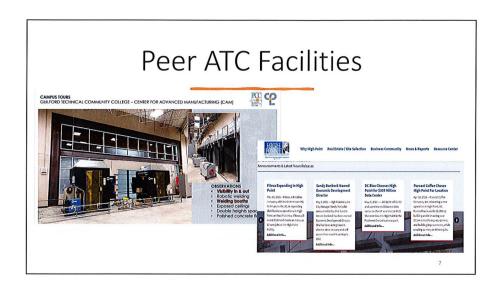
Does Person County Need an ATC?





Pictures from PCC's welding lab, BRCC Environmental Health and Safety report 2019, 2020

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"Having applicants and new hires who start with us be prepared with experience and training towards production and manufacturing positions is invaluable for POLYWOOD. When an employee who has already had training on manufacturing processes starts with us, supervisors are able to put them through our training more quickly due to the employee being equipped with the skills and knowledge needed for our positions; this saves us time and money on hiring."

- Meredith Summey, Human Resources Manager, Polywood

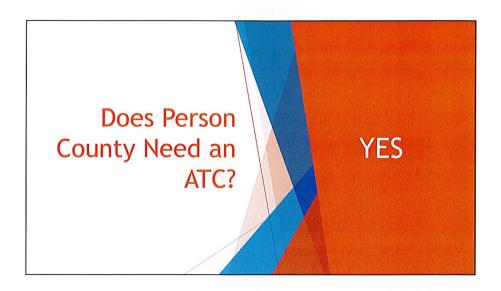


Why Now? Skilled Workers on Day 1

"In a time when having a skilled workforce drives location decisions and automation and advanced technology are the future of manufacturing, having a state-of-the-art training facility will be as much an attractor for new industry as modern facilities and abundant infrastructure. Not only will this investment show a forward-thinking and vested community from the public side, but it will also showcase partnerships with existing industry.

Speed-to-market is another key driver for companies of all sizes. Large industries considering the Person County Mega Park want to know how we can provide them with **skilled workers on Day 1**. It is not sufficient to say that we will pursue an advanced training center once they commit, especially when we are **competing** with communities that already have these facilities in place and are more proximate to larger populations. An attractive, modern, highly-visible center that serves all aspects of the community may also have the effect of attracting more students and families to the area. It's a **momentum builder in all the key areas needed for economic success.**"

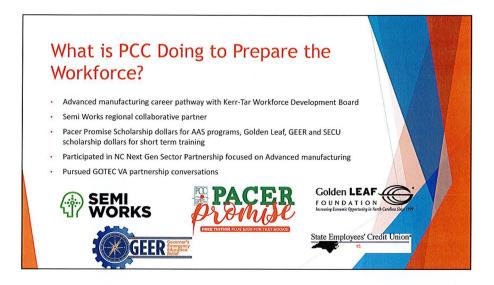
- Sherry Wilborn, Person County Economic Development Director

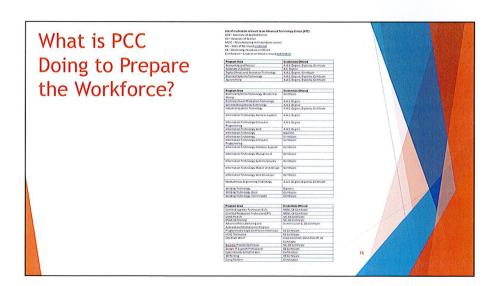


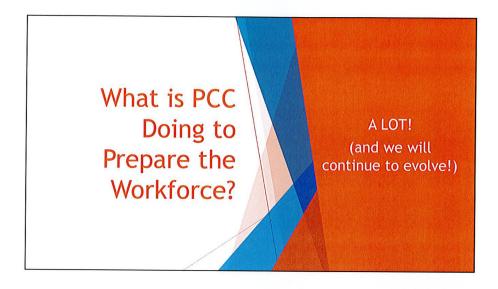
What is PCC Doing to Prepare the Workforce?

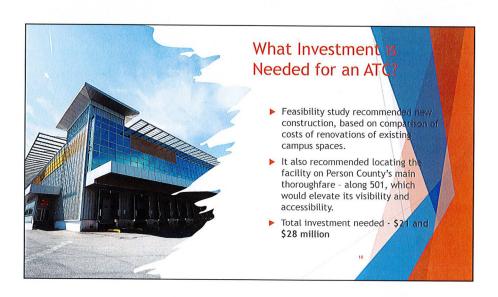
- P-16 Golden Leaf initiative (focus on Adv. Manufacturing, Technology, Health, Entrepreneurism, and Ag)
 - Realignment of programs into five areas that align with economic development foci areas of the EDC
 - Work Based Learning (WBL) Coordinator -→ WBL in majority of existing programs
 - Focused Marketing efforts
 - Professional Development
 - 6th grade career explore course
- Added BOOST program for micro-entrepreneurs through Small Business Center and Wells Fargo at BDEC
- · Customized industry projects investments





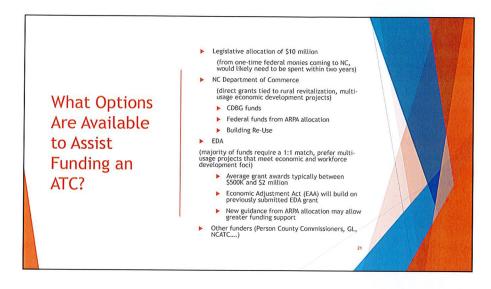


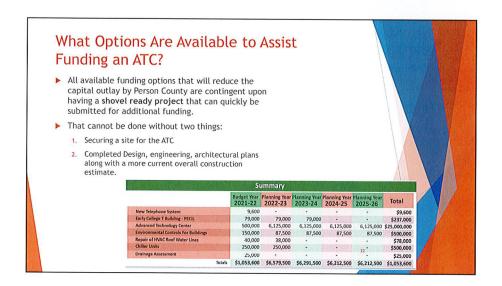












What Options Are Available to Assist Funding an ATC?

- ► Legislative allocation
- ▶ NC Department of Commerce
- ► EDA & other federal agencies
- ▶ Grants
- ▶ Person County Commissioners

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Do We Have a Shared Commitment to Investing in an ATC?

- 2019 funding for ATC Feasibility Study approved by Person County Commissioners
- ► EDC strategic plan for 2019-2022 listed education and workforce development investments as their top priority
- Actively engaging other funders to reduce capital outlay impact on the county
- Potential for a \$200 million investment from mega park connected to availability of workforce
- Need your commitment to move this further down the road

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Chairman Powell mentioned the SEMI model used to which Dr. Senegal confirmed PCC was awarded a grant for a semi-conductor curriculum.

Commissioner Gentry asked Dr. Senegal about the timeline whether to acquire property for the site or to refurbish existing facilities. Dr. Senegal stated PCC was at a pivot point at this time noting a recent donation site required vetting for its potential. She added the Fall of 2024 would be the proposed open date should they pursue new construction. Dr. Senegal noted the facility study did not recommend renovating on campus facilities and it was cost prohibitive but an option if their plan for a new facility did not come to fruition.

Commissioners Palmer and Gentry inquired about trades and courses offered at the college. Dr. Senegal stated PCC's model included five areas to meet the workforce needs of the region, which are Business, Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Arts & Sciences and Public Safety. Dr. Senegal explained courses such gun-smithing could be pursued for a degree or an elective class opportunity.

Commissioner Palmer asked about PCC's enrollment to which Dr. Senegal noted was low due to COVID but was projected to be around 1,200 currently.

County Manager, Heidi York said the ATC was not funded in her recommended budget noting without a site or plans, she could not appropriate funds. Dr. Senegal said that site acquisition and engineer design plans are the next steps as she was reviewing funding for the project.

Chairman Powell suggested to have further Board discussions in a budget work session.

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON PROCEEDS RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION:

County Manager, Heidi York stated that Person County was one of seventy-six counties that have joined state and national litigation efforts by filing lawsuits against companies for the manufacturing, marketing, promotion, and distribution of prescription opioid drugs. Working with the State, Person County staff and attorneys are hopeful that a National Settlement Agreement will be forthcoming along with proceeds from a related bankruptcy resolution. She added NC was projected to receive \$850M to be paid over an 18-year period to support state and local efforts to address the epidemic. Ms. York said that former Person County Attorney, Ron Aycock has remained involved in the litigation efforts as Special Counsel on behalf of Person County.

Mr. Aycock presented a Resolution approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina and local governments on proceeds relating to the Settlement of Opioid litigation that governs how NC would use its share of opioid settlement funds to be transparent and accountable. Mr. Aycock who also serves on the NC 5/5/5 committee comprised of five elected officials, five attorneys and five county managers that recommended the agreement as proposed.

Under the NC Memorandum of Agreement all settlement funds would be directed as follows:

- 15% to the State (for strategies to address the epidemic,)
- 80% to local governments through a formula developed by attorneys involved in the national litigation (for strategies to support programs and services to address the epidemic,) and
- An additional 5% into an incentive fund for any county in which all municipalities within the county with a population of 10,000 or more also signs the NC Memorandum of Agreement (Note: Person County will receive the additional 5% but Roxboro should still be requested to agree to the MOA to avoid a reduction in funds in the future should they meet the population threshold.)

Mr. Aycock stated counties are being asked to sign the Resolution as soon as possible to increase the percentage of opioid settlement funds that come to North Carolina.

Commissioner Palmer asked if the Board had discretion in appropriating the funds, for example, to law enforcement, to which Mr. Aycock stated the general answer is no as the reason for the lawsuit was to fund prevention, remediation and treatment of and related to the use of opioids. Mr. Aycock added there will be an approved list of services to which the funding can be used.

County Attorney, Ellis Hankins recommended along with Mr. Aycock to approve the resolution and MOA before them.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Sims and **carried 5-0** to adopt a Resolution approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina and local governments on proceeds relating to the Settlement of Opioid litigation.

Mr. Aycock commented that the City of Roxboro did not meet the population criteria for the opioid litigation; however, he suggested the County work with the City of Roxboro to sign the MOA in case the city's population reaches a rate that would make them eligible. County Manager, Heidi York stated she would reach out to the City Manager.

The Resolution approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina and local governments on proceeds relating to the Settlement of Opioid litigation follows:

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF PERSON APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON PROCEEDS RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION

WHEREAS, as of 2019, the opioid epidemic had taken the lives of more than 16,500 North Carolinians, torn families apart, and ravaged communities from the mountains to the coast; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the opioid crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the total "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and

WHEREAS, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuit against opioid manufacturers and pharmaceutical distribution companies and hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and

WHEREAS, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to provide for the equitable distribution of any proceeds from a settlement of national opioid litigation to the State of North Carolina and to individual local governments; and

WHEREAS, Local Governments and the State of North Carolina anticipate a settlement in the national opioid litigation to be forthcoming; and

WHEREAS, by signing onto the MOA, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, once a negotiation is finalized, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Person County and its citizens, to sign onto the MOA and demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid epidemic, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state and this county to help abate the harm; and

WHEREAS, the MOA directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Person County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation, and any subsequent settlement funds that may come into North Carolina as a result of the opioid crisis. Furthermore, Person County authorizes the County Manager (or County Attorney) take such measures as necessary to comply with the terms of the MOA and receive any settlement funds, including executing any documents related to the allocation of opioid settlement funds and settlement of lawsuits related to this matter. Be it further resolved copies of this resolution and the signed MOA be sent to opioiddocs@ncdoj.gov as well as forwarded to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners at communications@ncacc.org.

Adopted this the 17th day of May 2021.

Gordon Powell, Chairman

Person County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Brenda B. Reaves, Clerk to the Board

(SEAL)

The Memorandum of Agreement referenced in the foregoing resolution is incorporated into these minutes by referenced and are filed in the Office of the Clerk to the Board.

FALLS WATERSHED REGULATIONS – INTERIM ALTERNATIVE IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH POSSIBLE PROJECTS:

Planning Director, Lori Oakley provided some background with the Board noting in the summer of 2012, Person County adopted the *Falls Watershed Stormwater Ordinance* for New Development in the southern portion of Person County in order to comply with state watershed regulations. The regulations require adherence to two stages of nutrient reductions – Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Ms. Oakley added that since 2018, the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) has been exploring an alternative option for achieving compliance with Stage I Existing Development nutrient load reductions required by the Falls rules for watershed requirements and in early 2021, the Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA) was approved by the state. The IAIA does not utilize the traditional individual nutrient load (pounds of nitrogen and phosphorus) reduction based tracking system, but rather proposes an investment based compliance system focused on the entire watershed as an avenue to meet the required standards. In other words, rather than counting pounds reduced in individual jurisdictions the IAIA counts dollars invested into the overall health of the watershed.

In November 2020, the Person County Board of Commissioners voted to participate in the IAIA program, which includes an annual financial commitment of \$114,394 over a 5-year period totaling \$571,970. The start date for qualified projects or investments for the IAIA is July 1, 2021.

Ms. Oakley told the Board that several county departments met to identify potential sites that would comply with the IAIA requirements; the Stormwater Team included Commissioner Gentry, Assistant County Manager, Katherine Cathey, John Hill, Director of Recreation, Arts and Parks, Planning Director, Lori Oakley, Planner I, Angela Blount, GIS Manager, Sallie Vaughn, and Soil & Water Manager, Nancy McCormick.

The three sites identified were:

- "County Farm" site located off of Onie Burton Road (Parcel A76-15),
- Land adjacent to the Rock Athletic Complex, formerly known as the "Sportsplex" (Parcels 118-18 and 118-10), and
- Land adjacent to Hurdle Mills Park (Parcel A32-54.)

Each of these sites represent unique opportunities for the county to meet the IAIA requirements through the following eligible IAIA activities:

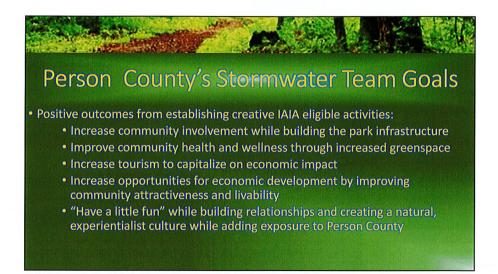
- Creation of parks, trails and paths with water quality benefits and a focus on environmental education,
- Floodplain restoration and reconnection,
- Stream and riparian buffer restoration and enhancement, and
- Pet waste pickup education and waste management stations.

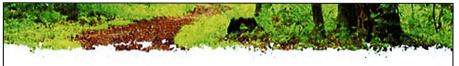
5/17/2021



- In the summer of 2012, Person County adopted the Falls Watershed Stormwater Ordinance for New Development in the southern portion of Person County.
- In 2018, the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) begin exploring alternative options for meeting the Stage 1 requirements of the stormwater regulations. The Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA) was adopted earlier this year by the UNRBA and approved by the state. It is the goal of Person County Government to satisfy it's obligation to the North Carolina State Division of Water Quality's Stormwater regulation requirements under the IAIA.
- Person County is obligated to spend \$114,394 per year for the next 5 years totaling \$571,970.







Project option 1: County Farm site

- More project opportunities to fulfill IAIA requirement.
- Acquire access to the site.
- Expenses associated with acquisition qualify for the IAIA.
- Land will be future site of recreational green space and trail.
- Fulfill IAIA elements with environmental education programs.
- Fulfills elements and action items of the Person County Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan that was adopted by commissions.



<u>Project option 2: Land Acquisition adjacent to the</u> Rock Athletic Complex and Southern Middle School

- Acquire approximately 7 acres of land adjacent to the Rock Athletic Complex and Southern Middle School.
- Expenses associated with acquisition qualify for the IAIA.
- Land will be future site of recreational green space and trail.
- Fulfill IAIA elements with environmental education programs.
- Fulfills elements and action items of the Person County Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan that was adopted by commissions.



Project option 3: Hurdle Mills Land Acquisition

- Acquire one acre of land adjacent to the Hurdle Mills Park.
- Expenses associated with acquisition qualify for the IAIA.
- Land will be future site of recreational green space and trail.
- Fulfill IAIA elements with environmental education programs.
- Fulfills elements and action items of the Person County Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan that was adopted by commissions.

Health and Wellness, Community, Tourism, Economic Development and Fun "All In One" A great solution to Stormwater IAIA while increasing Person County's livability and attractiveness

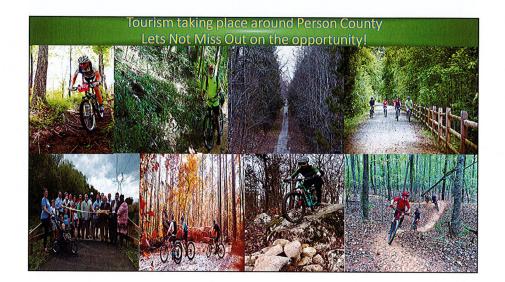




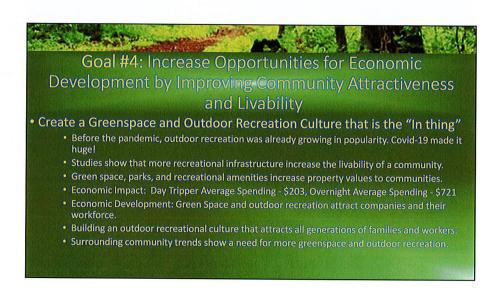


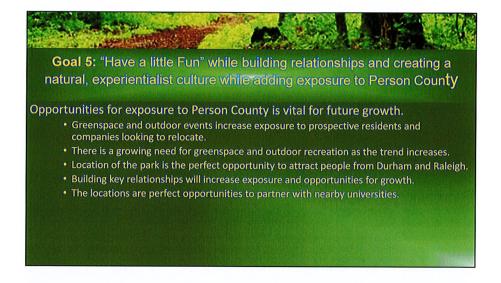
- Helps to prevent chronic health issues such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes, etc.
- Improves general mood and attitude while increasing individual and community morale
- Improves mental health and function
- Helps to build social capital, sense of community worth and interpersonal relationships
- Improves community mindfulness and creativity

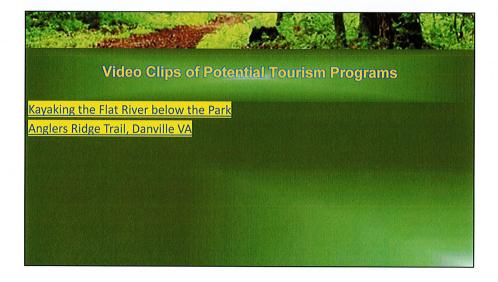












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Mr. Hill shared digital maps of each of the proposed sites.

Mr. Hill highlighted the benefits to the community from eligible IAIA projects include increased community involvement, improved community health and wellbeing and increased tourism levels and economic development opportunities through amenities such walking/hiking trails, bicycling, and canoe/kayaking.

Mr. Hill requested the Board to select a site (or multiple sites) for FY 2021/2022 in order for staff to begin working on fulfilling the requirements of participation in the IAIA program. Mr. Hill recommended the "County Farm" site based on the number of eligible IAIA activities and the benefits that it will provide to the County.

Commissioner Gentry asked what was the timeline for a functioning park; Ms. Oakley said it would be two-three months for the planning and public hearing process noting the first step was to gain access to the site(s), i.e., a recreational easement to the County Farm property and/or land acquisition in regard to the properties adjacent to the Sportsplex and Hurdle Mill Park along with an engineered plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Palmer and carried 5-0 to proceed with the Falls Watershed Regulations Interim Alternative Implementation Approach possible projects as presented.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Gentry and **carried 5-0** to recess for a break at 11:48am. The meeting was reconvened at 11:57am.

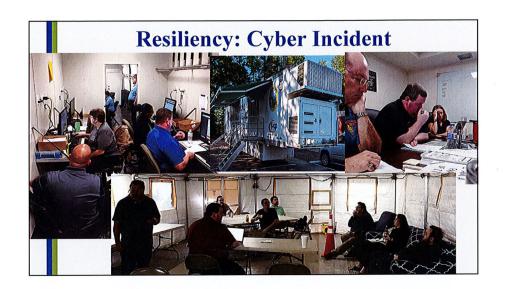
PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 RECOMMENDED BUDGET:

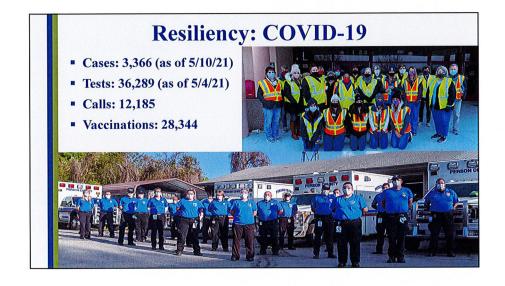
North Carolina General Statutes require that on or before June 1, the County Manager to present a recommended budget for the next fiscal year to the Board of Commissioners. County Manager, Heidi York provided the Board with copies of the budget document for review. Ms. York shared the following presentation as an overview of her Recommended Budget:



FY21-22 Recommended Budget

- 2020-2021 has been a year of challenges
- Long recovery process from our 2020 cybersecurity event
- Lingering impacts of COVID-19 on our organization and community
 - > Strained resources
 - > Increased demands on services and staff
 - ➤ Shift in our priorities
- Staff have persevered and found creative new ways to serve
- These challenges have impacted our budgetary needs







Challenges & Opportunities

- County workforce, school students and staff, businesses, our residents, all need county support in more ways than ever
- FNS households have increased by 645 households since March 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Head of Households in March 2020 were 2,963 and they are currently 3,608. This is an increase in caseloads by 21,77%
- 25.3% of Person County residents are enrolled in Medicaid; State average is 23%
- Completion of our eight-year Property Tax Revaluation

Property Tax Revaluation

- All real property
- Schedule of Values effective January 1, 2021
- With the current tax rate, property tax revenues expected to increase by \$3.1M or 10.6% over current year
- Increases in values based on the market for January 1, 2021
- Growth driven by a shortage in supply of homes, increased costs of materials and labor

Property Tax Revenues

- Current year tax revenues are estimated at \$33M based on a property valuation of \$4.67B
- Revenue Neutral Rate- the tax rate that would generate the same amount of revenues if reappraisal had not occurred
- Calculated for real property growth, averaged over the last eight years
- Revenue Neutral Rate = \$0.6805
 - difference of \$0.0395 from current rate
 - If adopted, County would lose \$1.8M in property tax revenues

FY22 Property Tax Revenues

- Property Tax rate remains flat at \$.72
- Collection rate remains at 97.5%



= \$495,097

FY21-22 Overview

- General Fund Budget is \$66M
 - ➤ Increase of \$4.3M or 7.06%
 - ➤ Municipal Cost Index grew by 5.06% over last 12 months
 - > 2% of increase is due to new spending
- \$67.1M was requested, requiring 3.88 cents on the tax rate
- All Funds Budget is \$78M, an increase of \$6.3M or 8.7%





The foundation for which funding recommendations are built.

Economic Catalyst Fund: \$1.2M; growing by \$231K. Includes \$270K for designated incentive payments \$890K for discretionary development needs.

Airport will see the resurfacing of the runway and the construction of the corporate hangar

Results of the Broadband Inventory Study

Property Tax and Fire Tax will remain flat

Schools to receive their full funding request for current expense and working capital

Debt model to be implemented for School's capital needs, first round of financings proposed at \$10M $\,$

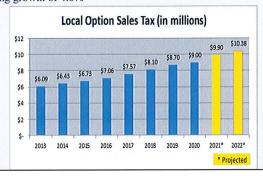
Revenues

- Largest percentage of tax base in state appraised property in the State
- General Fund Revenues come from the following sources:



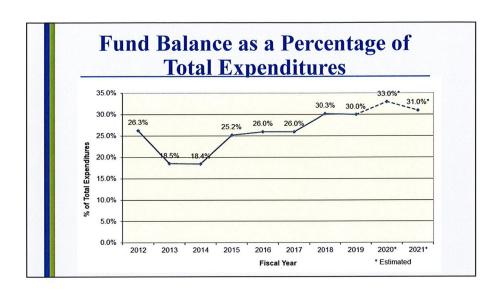
Revenues

- Sales Tax: Rate is 6.75 cents; County receives 2 cents
- Projecting growth of 4.8%



Fund Balance

- All local governments are required to maintain a healthy fund balance to provide for cash flow since property taxes aren't paid on July 1
- Provides for unanticipated expenses and loss of revenues
- Indicator of the health of an organization's finances
- Level can contribute to the bond rating on which interest rates are based
- Best practices: limit spending to one-time, non-recurring needs (when at a healthy level)
- Measured as a percentage of total expenditures
- Difficult to predict with delayed audit



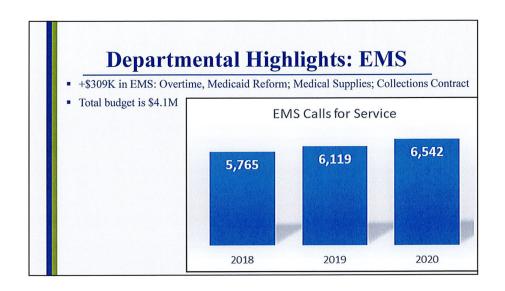
FY22 Fund Balance Appropriations

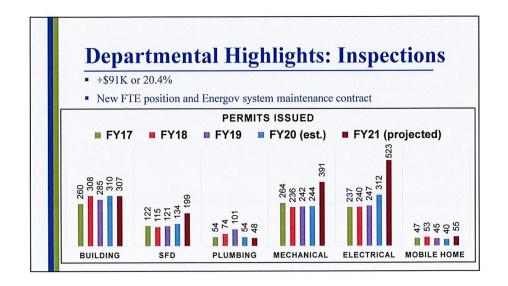
- \$966K is appropriated to support operating funds
 - > 75% decrease from FY21's \$3.9M appropriation
 - \$461K in General Fund: CIP projects along with two smaller projects at Mayo Park and in the Jail
 - \$22,500 in IT Systems Contingency Fund
 - \$12,000 in Register of Deeds Technology Fund
 - \$220,000 Health Dept
 - \$250,000 DSS

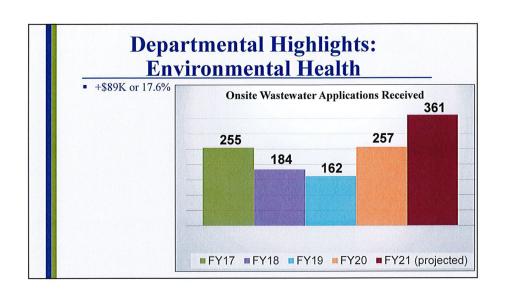


Expenditures

- +\$159K in Elections
- -\$549K in Person Industries
- +\$114K in Stormwater
- Undesignated Contingency is budgeted at \$100K
- +\$609K County Health Insurance, 16.1%, total \$4.4M
- -\$57K in Jail
- -\$187K in Reappraisal Fund







Department	Position	Salary/ Benefits	Operating Costs	TOTAL
IT	IT User Support Specialist	\$67,095	\$4,255	\$71,350
Inspections	Senior Code Enforcement Officer	\$87,056	\$47,866	\$134,922
PATS	Transit Specialist	\$41,131	\$0	\$41,131
Economic Development	Assistant EDC Director	\$70,743	\$7,824	\$78,567
Environmental Health	Environmental Health Specialist	\$67,913	\$36,945	\$104,858
Social Services	Income Maintenance Quality Assurance Analyst	\$61,910	\$3,715	\$65,625
	TOTAL	\$395,848	\$100,605	\$496,453

Vehicles

- 16 requested; 13 recommended according to the County's Vehicle Replacement Policy based on age, maintenance issues, and mileage
- 8 Sheriff's Office
- 2 PATS vans
- 1 General Services
- 1 Animal Services
- 1 Inspections
- Total cost is \$361K

Person County Schools

- Total recommended current expense and capital is \$11,008,896.
- Current Expense requested flat funding of \$10,442,896
- Capital request: \$566K (an increase of \$130K)
- Tech Capital request: No funding. Schools are applying CARES funds.
- CIP funds for chiller replacements (North Elementary and North End Elementary), heat pump replacement (Stories Creek Elementary), HVAC unit replacement (Earl Bradsher Elementary), and roof replacements (Oak Lane Elementary and South Elementary)

Current Expense	Capital	Tech Capital	CIP	Debt Service	Total
\$10,442,896	\$566,000	\$0	\$1,360,298	\$645,143	\$13,014,337

Piedmont Community College

- Total recommended current expense and capital is \$1,441,596.
- Current Expense request: \$1.5M (an increase of \$225K from FY21).
 Recommending \$1.3M (an increase of \$34K from FY21). Continues \$10K for Small Business Incubator.
- Capital request: \$120K (an increase of \$67K from FY21).
- CIP funds new telephone system (final installment payment of four), POD building for Early College (third installment payment of five), and an HVAC Environmental Control System.
- Debt Service: Final payments for two outstanding debts were made in FY21.

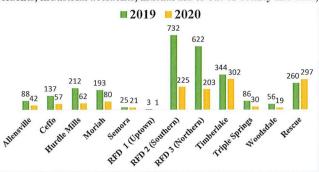
Current Expense	Capital	CIP	Debt Service	Total
\$1,321,346	\$120,250	\$413,600	\$0	\$1,855,196

Volunteer Fire Departments

- Funded through the Fire Tax revenues (\$1.16M), rate is 2.75 cents
- Contracts dictate 2% increase over last year's amount (+\$17K)
- Reallocation of former Woodsdale funding plus an additional \$27K restoration funding for that former department to the departments that will now serve that district
- Some unallocated funding for ISO rating improvement bonuses

County Contracted Fire Departments' Calls

Includes primary & secondary fire, medical, search & rescues, hazardous materials, vehicle accidents, industrial accidents, mutual aid to out-of-county fire calls, etc.



FY21-22 Recommended Budget

- Invests in the services and programs that our community needs
- Committed to supporting our employees and our community
- Recognized some areas in need of additional support and resources
- Throughout the pandemic and cybersecurity event, employees have given their all
- Work together towards an adopted budget

Next Steps in Budget Process

Budget Public Hearing June 7th, 7:00pm

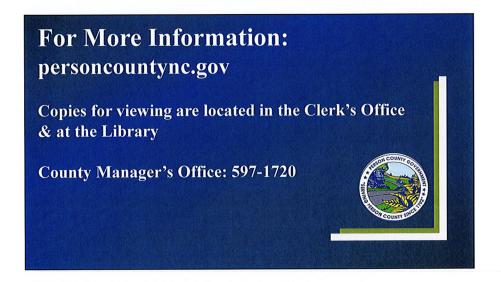
Work sessions

May 24th 5:00pm

June 8th 2:00 pm

June 10th 10:00 am

All to be held in the Auditorium



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Chairman Powell voiced his concern that Education rated fourth in overall expenditures.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Powell stated his preference to move the Board of Commissioners' meeting back to their boardroom 215. Clerk to the Board, Brenda Reaves reminded the Board that its joint meeting with the Board of Education would need to take place in the Auditorium as well as the Budget Public Hearing to accommodate the public. The Board took no action related to its meeting schedule.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

County Manager, Heidi York reported she would be sending out a communication to the county workforce related to the recent Governor's Executive Order noting there are departments that would require face coverings, i.e., transportation services, jail services and of course, health department services.

COMMISSIONER REPORT/COMMENTS:

Vice Chairman Puryear reported the acceptance of tax value appeals would close on May 24, 2021 at 9:00am; he added the Board of Equalization and Review would be meeting in the Economic Development conference room.

There were no reports from Commissioners Gentry, Sims or Palmer.

CLOSED SESSION #1

A motion was made by Commissioner Sims and carried 5-0 to enter into Closed Session at 12:35pm per General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations with the following individuals permitted to attend: County Manager, Heidi York, Clerk to the Board, Brenda Reaves, Economic Development Director, Sherry Wilborn and County Attorney, Ellis Hankins.

Chairman Powell called Closed Session #1 to order at 12:36pm.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Sims and **carried 5-0** to return to open session at 12:43pm.

CLOSED SESSION #2

A motion was made by Commissioner Sims and carried 5-0 to enter into Closed Session at 12:45pm per General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations with the following individuals permitted to attend: County Manager, Heidi York, Clerk to the Board, Brenda Reaves, Economic Development Director, Sherry Wilborn and County Attorney, Ellis Hankins.

Chairman Powell called Closed Session #2 to order at 12:46pm.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Sims and **carried 5-0** to return to open session at 12:54pm.

RECESS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Sims and carried 5-0 to recess the meeting at 12:55pm until 5:00pm on May 24, 2021 in the County Auditorium for a joint meeting with the Board of Education.

Despite the motion to recess the May 17, 2021 meeting to May 24, 2021, as the Board of Commissioners' intent was to meet at 5:00pm jointly with the Board of Education, Commissioner Gentry requested the meeting to be rescheduled and therefore, both boards accommodated the request and cancelled the May 24, 2021 meeting at 5:00pm. A notice of cancelled meeting was distributed and posted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Without a quorum present at 5:00pm on May 24, 2021 to call the recessed meeting to order, Chairman Powell moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:01pm.

Brenda B. Reaves Clerk to the Board	Gordon Powell Chairman	_