

**PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**MARCH 20, 2023**  
**OTHERS PRESENT**

-----  
Gordon Powell  
C. Derrick Sims  
Kyle W. Puryear  
Charlie Palmer  
Jason Thomas  
-----

Katherine M. Cathey, 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, March 20, 2023 at 9:00am in the Commissioners' Boardroom 215 in the Person County Office Building located at 304 S. Morgan Street, Roxboro, NC.

Chairman Powell called the meeting to order and offered an invocation with a moment of silence for the Tillman family (Board of Education Chair Freda Tillman's husband passed). Vice Chairman Sims led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Chairman Powell stated a request to add a Proclamation Designating the Month of April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Person County and recognizing such with item #1 on the agenda.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to add a Proclamation Designating Child Abuse Prevention Month in Person County to the agenda, to be recognized during item #1, and to approve the agenda, as adjusted.

**RECOGNITION:**

**THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD PROCLAMATION AND A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH:**

Chairman Powell read a Proclamation for Board consideration designating the week of April 3-7, 2023 as The Week of the Young Child in Person County.

Chairman Powell read a Proclamation Designating the Month of April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Person County.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to adopt both a Proclamation Designating the Week of April 3-7, 2023 as The Week of the Young Child in Person County and a Proclamation Designating the Month of April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Person County.

**March 20, 2023**

**PROCLAMATION BY**

**Person County Board of Commissioners**

**On**

**THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**

**WHEREAS, the Person County Partnership for Children and other local organizations, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating the WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD April 3-7, 2023; and**

**WHEREAS, by calling attention to the need for high-quality early childhood services for all children and families within our community/state, these groups hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and**

**WHEREAS, the future of Person County depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today.**

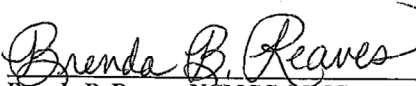
**NOW THEREFORE, the Person County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of April 3-7, 2023 as THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD in Person County and urge all citizens to recognize and support the needs of young children in Person County.**

**Adopted this, the 20th day of March 2023.**



  
Gordon Powell, Chairman  
Person County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

  
Brenda B. Reaves, NCMCC, MMC  
Clerk to the Board

**March 20, 2023**

**PROCLAMATION**  
**Child Abuse Prevention Month**  
**April 2023**

**WHEREAS,** children deserve the best and look to adults to be protectors, role models, and their heroes; and

**WHEREAS,** children who are loved and nurtured, grow up to love and nurture, give back to their own families, their neighborhoods, and their communities the same way that was bestowed on them and the cycle continues; and

**WHEREAS,** preventing child abuse and neglect is the responsibility of every citizen and community; involvement is essential to breaking the cycle of abuse; and

**WHEREAS,** it is vital that we come together as a community to reach out to parents and children to prevent the senseless abuse and neglect of all children.

**NOW, THEREFORE** the Person County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as ***"Child Abuse Prevention Month"*** in Person County and urge all citizens to support this observance.

Adopted this, the 20th day of March 2023.



Gordon Powell, Chairman  
Person County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Brenda B. Reaves, NCMCC, MMC  
Clerk to the Board

March 20, 2023

**INFORMAL COMMENTS:**

There were no comments from the public.

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- A. Approval of Minutes of February 21, 2023,
- B. Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2023,
- C. Budget Amendment #16,
- D. Fee Schedule for PATS EDTAP Users,
- E. Update of the Person Area Transportation System Procurement Policy, and
- F. The Applicant and Property Owner, Adam Richard Osborne, is requesting approval of “Written Decision Approving Special Use Permit Application” (i.e. Written Order) following Special Use Permit SUP-02-23 approval for commercial storage units (i.e. Osborne Storage Unit Facility) to be located within B-2 (Neighborhood Shopping) zoned property. The ±3.33-acre Subject Property is located at Tax Map and Parcel No. A84A C1, C2, C3, C4, A27, and A28 (Parcel Identification Nos. 0934-00-23-0348.000, 0934-00-13-9325.000, 0934-00-13-9220.000, 0934-00-13-8215.000, 0934-00-12-9903.000, and 0934-00-12-8916.000)

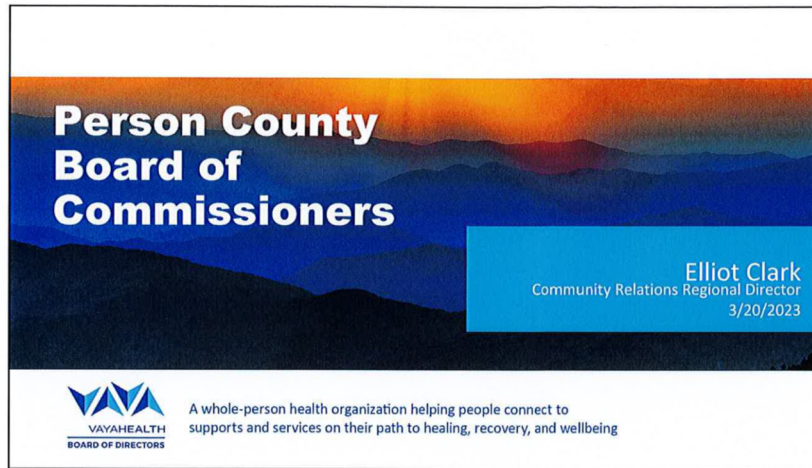
**NEW BUSINESS:****VAYA HEALTH UPDATE AND DASHBOARD PRESENTATION:**

Elliot Clark, Regional Director of Community Relations with Vaya Health shared the following Vaya Health update and Dashboard presentation noting Vaya is the local management entity (LME) for behavioral healthcare in Person County. He added Vaya has its headquarters in Asheville with a regional office in Henderson; currently 31 of the 100 NC counties have Vaya covering its behavioral health plans.

**March 20, 2023**




3/20/2023



**Person County  
Board of  
Commissioners**

**Elliot Clark**  
Community Relations Regional Director  
3/20/2023

 **VAYAHEALTH**  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A whole-person health organization helping people connect to supports and services on their path to healing, recovery, and wellbeing



**CURRENT  
CHALLENGES**

1

## INCREASED DEMAND AND LIMITED RESOURCES

- Since the end of the pandemic there has been a rising increase in
  - The need for child and adult mental health and substance use services across NC
  - The loss of mental health, substance use, and I/DD professionals leaving the profession
- Additionally, the expansion of new health plans in NC and the ability for staff to accept remote positions nationally has created significant competition on local limited NC staffing resources
- These factors have contributed to waitlists for services across the healthcare system and higher volume in ED and inpatient care.
- Vaya has been working with providers to meet these unique challenges while trying to expand and develop new service opportunities across the Vaya region.

3

## STABILIZE WALK-IN CENTERS

Vaya increased outpatient rates at Crisis Walk-in Centers to:

1. Stabilize physician and clinical staff (retention of existing staff)
2. Recruit additional staff (increased reimbursement)
3. Improve access to same day care in rural communities
4. Incentivize face to face service in rural communities
5. Expand access to Substance Use services
6. Implementation of Co-responder model of service with Law Enforcement

4



## Strategies to Address Workforce Challenges

- Increased rates across all service area to promote competitive recruitment and retention.
- Targeted rate increases for Direct Support Professionals for more competitive pay for key community-based behavioral health and intellectual/developmental services.
- Targeted work and funding with providers to develop strategies for recruitment and retention.
- Utilizing funding to allow providers to incentivize staffing in more rural counties.
- Focused work with Vaya Provider Advisory Council to develop recruitment and retention strategies across service and disability.

5

## STATE-WIDE CHILD AND YOUTH IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

3

March 20, 2023

## IMPROVEMENT AREAS

- Vaya is working with all LME/MCO's to establish a standardized seamless transition of care for children placed outside of the Vaya Health Plan region
- Vaya is implementing a standardized pass-through authorization process for children entering residential treatment services to eliminate any barriers for children needing to quickly enter residential treatment
- Vaya is working with other LME/MCO's and Benchmarks to develop a standardized referral process for all residential provider
- Vaya continues to expand a statewide open network to improve access to care for child services
- Reduce or eliminate the need for Out of Network Agreements prior to entry to care

7

## IMPROVEMENT AREAS CONT'D

- Vaya has an escalation protocol for DSS' to notify Vaya leadership of acute high risk cases including 24/7 access through the Vaya Call Center outside business hours
- Vaya is raising rates to expand access to crisis/emergency beds to reduce/eliminate the needs for DSS to temporarily house children with an emergency need
  - Vaya currently has 61 crisis beds that are available for Vaya Members
  - Vaya is actively working to add 54 additional crisis beds across the catchment to include Region 4.
- Embedded Care Management in each County DSS

8



## EXPANDING ACCESS TO THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE - PROFESSIONAL PARENTING

- Vaya increased TFC rate from \$97.22 to **\$175.00** per day (Emergency Respite **\$360.00** per day)
- Our goal is to create an extensive TFC network that allows our children to remain in their home communities with TFC parents dedicated to children's success and transitioning home
- In the coming weeks Vaya will be reaching out to contracted TFC providers to discuss these goals and to monitor the success of these new rates meeting the following objectives:
  - Improving the retention rate of current TFC families
  - Expanding the number of therapeutic homes across the Vaya region
  - Supporting children being served in their local communities with their local support systems
  - Improving the coordination of services for children in care by assuring children are connected with medical, dental, and behavioral health services
  - Providing additional support and training to TFC families

9

## Tailored Plans are the Best Approach for Those Served by the Child Welfare System

### RIGHT APPROACH



Moving foster care population to Tailored Plans means immediate access to whole-person care, in a cost-effective and efficient way



Vaya and other LME/MCOs have made substantial, continual investments to improve services for the foster care population in collaboration with DSS



Best of both worlds: Deep local involvement along with a statewide network's scale and reach

### WRONGS TURN



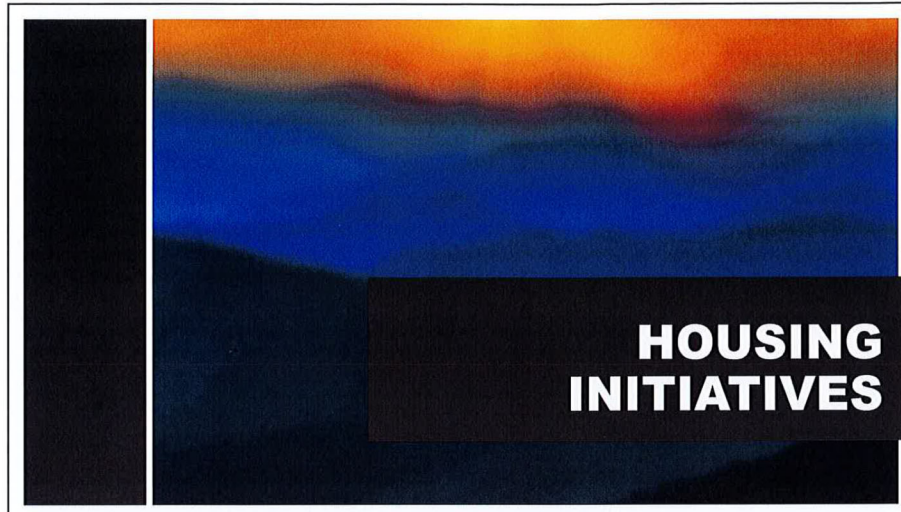
Creating a new foster care waiver requires a lengthy procurement process that will result in additional administrative burden and cost



Counties will not experience the same excellent level of customer service with a commercial plan



Foster care waiver will not solve funding, staffing, and bed availability challenges

A presentation slide with a blue background. On the left side, there is a vertical decorative element consisting of a small white square at the top, followed by a rectangular area with a sunset/sunrise image, and a black bar at the bottom. The main content area is blue and contains the following text:

**Housing Initiatives through Vaya**

- Transitions to Community Living Program
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Non-Medicaid Residential Services
- Housing Supports Grant
- Integrated Supportive Housing Program
- Link to Resources: [Housing Initiatives / Vaya Health](#)

12



A presentation slide with a blue background. On the left side, there is a vertical decorative element consisting of a small white square at the top, followed by a thin orange bar, and then a larger blue bar that matches the slide's background. The main content area is white and contains the following text:

**Community Collaboration with Vaya**

- **Crisis Response Collaborative**
  - Cadence
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 11AM
  - Local Participation
  - Mission
- **Person Community Collaborative**
  - Cadence
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 11AM
  - Local Participation
  - Mission

14

## **Community Collaboration with Vaya (cont.)**

- **Person County Case Management**
  - Weekly on Wednesdays at 3pm
  - Includes Vaya, Local Providers, Person Memorial, DSS, EMS, DA's office, and Law Enforcement.
  - Mission

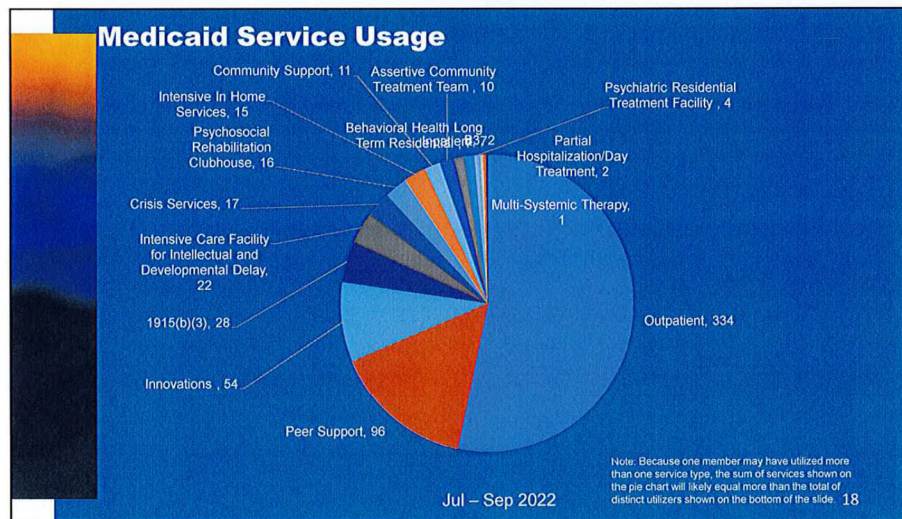
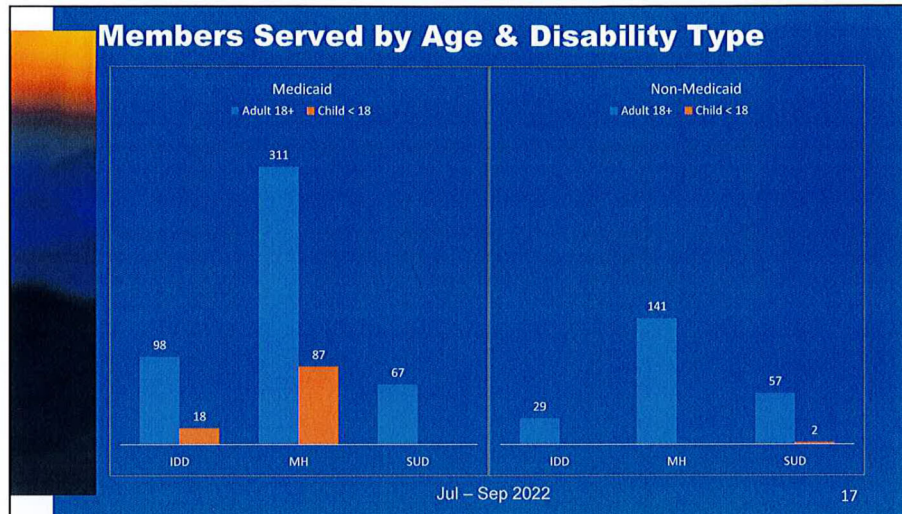
15

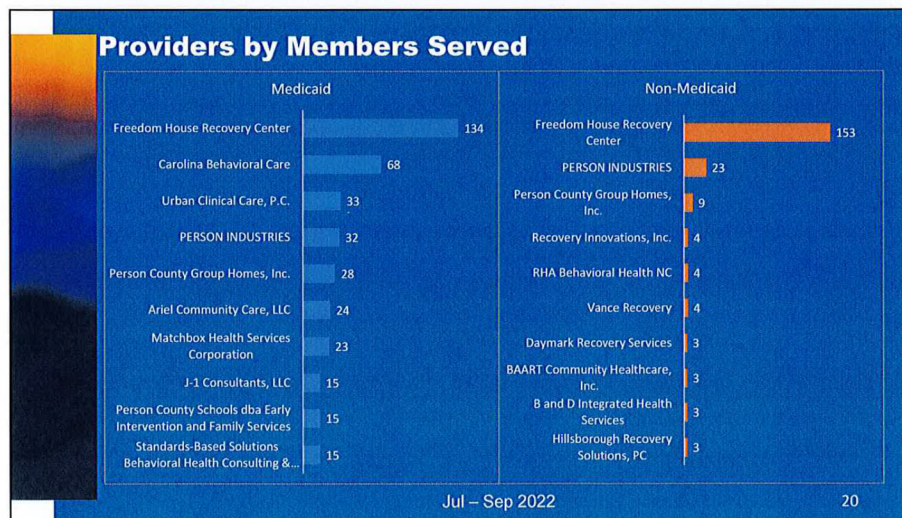
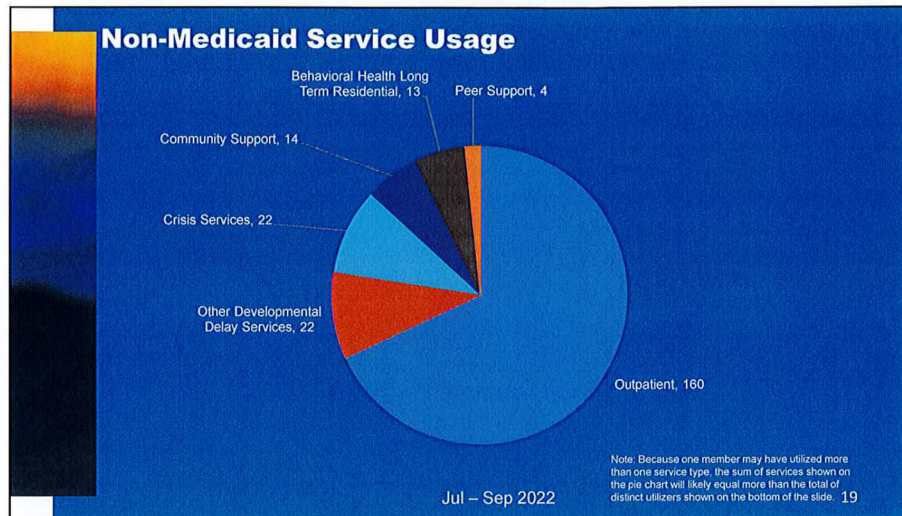


## **Person County Dashboard**

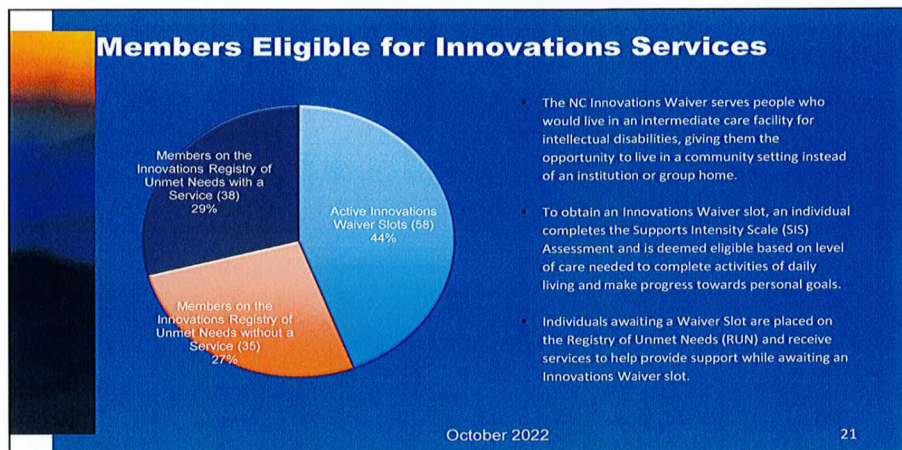
**January 2023**











In discussing the proposed statewide Medicaid Child and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP), Chairman Powell noted his opposition and asked Mr. Clark if Person County needed to take a position related to House Bill 340 currently in review to which Mr. Clark offered to send along a template delegation letter to consider at an upcoming Board meeting.

## **PERSON COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS:**

Person Veterans Council President Ronnie Jefferies updated the Board on their plans to install a Person County Native American Veterans Memorial Stone as well as a Person County KIA Memorial Reflecting Pool (5' x 5' water fountain feature with no more than 12" of water depth) built by Donald Long in the rear of the Person County Veterans Memorial Park to memorialize those that have given the ultimate sacrifice.

Mr. Jefferies, on behalf of the Person Veterans Council, requested to conduct a Military Style Pyrotechnic Groundbreaking at this year's Memorial Day Ceremony in accordance with the Person Veterans Council letter dated January 20, 2023 addressed to the Person County Board of Commissioners and signed by the President of the Veterans Council, the Person County Fire Marshal and the Roxboro Fire Chief. Mr. Jeffries said they will canvass the surrounding area prior to the event to let neighbors know of this planned pyrotechnic display

In addition, Mr. Jefferies provided the commissioners with a 2023 Schedule of Events for the Person County Veterans Memorial Park.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Palmer and **carried 5-0** to approve the use of Pyrotechnics to conduct a military style ground breaking at the Memorial Day Ceremony, as presented.



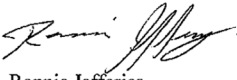
January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Person County Board of Commissioners  
304 S. Morgan Street  
Roxboro, NC 27573

Honorable Commissioners of Person County,

The Person Veteran's Council requests to perform a non-proximate outdoor pyrotechnic display to celebrate the expansion of the Person County Veteran's Park located at 316 S. Morgan Street during the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10:00. The display will involve no projected pyrotechnics and will be monitored/superintended by the Roxboro Fire Department and Person County Fire Inspectors for the duration of the event. Any questions related to this event can be directed to the undersigned at (336) 583-4555.


Respectfully,

  
Ronnie Jefferies  
President  
Person Veterans Council

The above referenced pyrotechnic display does not require a permit in accordance with NCGS 58-82A.

X  Date: 1/20/2023  
Adam Morris  
Person County Fire Marshal

The Roxboro Fire Department will monitor the above referenced pyrotechnic display at the specified location, date, and time.

X  Date: 1/20/2023  
Kenneth Torain  
Roxboro Fire Chief

The Person County Board of Commissioners approves the above referenced pyrotechnic display at the specified location, date, and time.

X  Date: 3/20/2023  
Gordon Powell  
Chairman  
Person County Board of Commissioners

March 20, 2023

### **FIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD FUNDING REQUEST:**

Fire Marshal Adam Morris, on behalf of the Person County Chiefs Association, proposed a countywide accountability board that would be used at structure fires and large-scale incidents. Mr. Morris said the seven volunteer fire departments and the one rescue squad that serve Person County as well as the City of Roxboro Fire Department would utilize this accountability board and system. He said the purpose of the accountability board was to track the personnel on scene, the location of the personnel working, and the assignment that they are completing. Currently, he noted there was not a standard accountability system across Person County, and the departments have been fortunate that no emergency or Mayday situation has ever occurred. Mr. Morris stated this would be a one-time cost to implement this system, and if additional funding were needed, it would be the departments' responsibility. A standard operating guideline on how to use the system has been presented for review to all of the departments and would require the Chiefs' approval.

Mr. Morris indicated that Louisiana Pacific Corporation, a manufacturing facility on Boston Road, reached out to assist emergency services in Person County that respond to their facility for an emergency. This system was shared with their safety representative, administrative staff and their corporate leaders for consideration to help fund this project. Mr. Morris did not know if Louisiana Pacific Corporation would or would not donate to this project at this time.

Mr. Morris requested Board approval for the request and to fund the \$4,500.00 with unallocated funds from the fire district tax budget to purchase the material to construct the accountability boards to be used throughout Person County.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to approve the Fire Service Accountability Board System, as presented, and to appropriate the funding of \$4,500 using unallocated funds from the fire district tax budget.

### **RESOLUTION OF INTENT AND CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHOOLS:**

Chairman Powell announced the following resolution (the "*Resolution*"), a copy of which was available with the Board and which was read by title by the Finance Director Amy Wehrenberg:

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF PERSON, NORTH CAROLINA DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE COUNTY OF PERSON, NORTH CAROLINA TO ISSUE \$38,255,000 LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE VARIOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS, AS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PERSON COUNTY, AND TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH PROJECTS FROM THE PROCEEDS OF LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS EXPECTED TO BE EXECUTED AND DELIVERED IN CALENDAR YEARS 2023, 2025 AND 2027.**

**March 20, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the County of Person (the “*Board of Education*”) has requested that the Board of Commissioners (the “*Board*”) of the County of Person, North Carolina (the “*County*”) execute and deliver \$38,255,000 of tax-exempt limited obligation bonds (the “*Bonds*”) in order to finance improvements to Person High School and various other public schools (collectively, the “*Projects*”); and

**WHEREAS**, the County intends (a) to proceed with the Projects, in three separate financings currently scheduled for calendar years 2023, 2025 and 2027, and (b) to increase property taxes by a ¼ cent in order to make payments as to principal and interest on the Bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, the County expects to incur and pay certain expenditures in connection with the Projects prior to the date of execution and delivery of the Bonds (the “*Original Expenditures*”), such Original Expenditures to be paid for originally from a source other than the proceeds of the Bonds, and the County intends, and reasonably expects, to be reimbursed for such Original Expenditures from a portion of the proceeds of the Bonds to be executed and delivered at dates occurring after the dates of such Original Expenditures;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Person, North Carolina as follows:

Section 1. ***Official Declaration of Intent.*** The County presently intends, and reasonably expects, to reimburse itself for the Original Expenditures incurred and paid by the County on or after the date occurring 60 days prior to the date of adoption of this Resolution from a portion of the proceeds of the Bonds. The County reasonably expects to execute and deliver the Bonds in calendar years 2023, 2025 and 2027, and the maximum principal amount of Bonds reasonably expected to be executed and delivered by the County to pay for all or a portion of the costs of the Projects is expected to be \$38,255,000.

Section 2. ***Compliance with Regulations.*** The County adopts this Resolution as a declaration of official intent under Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations promulgated under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to evidence the County's intent to reimburse itself for the Original Expenditures from proceeds of the Bonds.

Section 3. ***Itemization of Capital Expenditures.*** The Finance Officer of the County, with advice from bond counsel, is hereby authorized, directed and designated to act on behalf of the County in determining and itemizing all of the Original Expenditures incurred and paid by the County in connection with the Projects during the period commencing on the date occurring 60 days prior to the date of adoption of this Resolution and ending on the date of execution and delivery of the Bonds.

Section 4. ***Effective Date.*** This Resolution is effective immediately on the date of its adoption.

**March 20, 2023**

On motion of Commissioner Kyle Puryear, seconded (not applicable), the foregoing resolution entitled **“RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF PERSON, NORTH CAROLINA DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE COUNTY OF PERSON, NORTH CAROLINA TO ISSUE \$38,255,000 LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE VARIOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS, AS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PERSON COUNTY, AND TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH PROJECTS FROM THE PROCEEDS OF LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS EXPECTED TO BE EXECUTED AND DELIVERED IN CALENDAR YEARS 2023, 2025 AND 2027”** was duly adopted by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIRMAN GORDON POWELL, COMMISSIONER DERRICK SIMS, COMMISSIONER KYLE PURYEAR, COMMISSIONER CHARLIE PALMER AND COMMISSIONER JASON THOMAS.

NAYS: NONE.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY:**

Thomas E. Schwalenberg, Director of the Department of Emergency Services stated the Person County Department of Emergency Services hired Mission Critical Partners, LLC, a consulting firm of former public safety officials who have supported similar initiatives, to do a facility assessment for Emergency Services. The goals of the facility assessment were to analyze where Emergency Services stands today in terms of facility assets, to analyze current and projected facility needs based on operational and administrative functions and to help define the future state of Emergency Services facility needs for Person County.

Mr. Schwalenberg stated a collaborative assessment process occurred, with Mission Critical Partners, LLC facilitating the study, involving County Administration, Emergency Services (Emergency Management, EMS and E-911 Telecommunications), General Services, Information Technology and the Fire Marshal’s Office. Meetings were held with individual stakeholders as well as site visits to assess and understand current and future needs. The result of this twelve-month effort is a baseline report of current facilities and technology and recommendations for future actions. He asked the Board to provide staff with input on future steps to undertake based on the Facility Assessment presentation.

Mr. Schwalenberg introduced Mr. Jason Malloy with Mission Critical Partners, LLC to deliver the Facility Assessment presentation as follows:





### Facility Feasibility Assessment

- MCP was asked to evaluate:
  - Is it feasible to merge the Department of Emergency Services, (EMS, 911 and Emergency Management) along with the Fire Marshal's Office into a single operations facility
  - The approximate size and cost of such a facility
  - Which potentially available properties may work for said facility
- MCP interviewed staff from all four divisions to determine facility requirements
- MCP evaluated six properties



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

### Current State of DES Facilities

- EMS Station 1 / OEM



YourMissionMatters

### Current State of DES Facilities

- 911 Telecommunications Center
- Fire Marshal's Office



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

### Facility Feasibility

- Stakeholder feedback from DES, EMS, EM, FM and 911 staff confirmed a close working relationship between divisions and staff
- Close working relationship enables sharing of facility resources
  - Locker and shower facilities
  - Secured parking
  - Break and kitchen spaces
  - Meeting/training spaces
  - Equipment and storage spaces



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

### Facility Programming

Building Component	Square Feet
PSAP	3,809
DES/EMS Administration/Fire Marshal	4,392
EMS Operations	15,620
Emergency Operations Center	7,634
Shared internal spaces	3,287
Technical and mechanical	2,718
Sub-total	37,460
Emergency Apparatus Garage/Warehouse	10,046
Total	47,506
Approximate cost (\$800 per sq. foot)	\$38,004,800



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

Mr. Malloy explained the approximate costs of \$800 per sq. foot was for a harden facility.



## Facility Technology, Furniture and Fixture Costs

- Shared space allows for technology savings
- Dedicated, hardened and purpose built data center
- Potential funding availability
- Coordinate discussions between all stakeholders during programming and design phase to determine precise needs for the facility

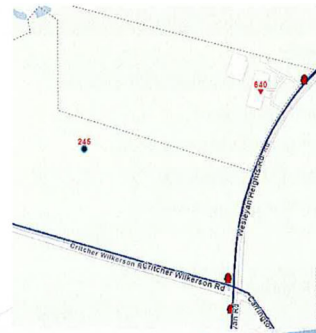


YourMissionMatters

 MissionCriticalPartners

## Facility Programming

Building Component	Square Feet
Building footprint	43,191 (0.99 acres)
Parking (approx. 156 spaces)	18,470 (0.42 acres)
Total	61,661 (1.42 acres)
Accommodation for access driveways, secure access and stone trailer pads	0.58 acres (minimum)
Total	2.0 acres (minimum)
Preferred site size	3.0 acres



YourMissionMatters

 MissionCriticalPartners

## Potential Facility Locations

- County staff identified six properties as potential sites for a combined emergency services facility.
- Two properties are not large enough to build a combined facility; two additional sites pose significant risks to the facility
- Sites evaluated on the following factors: pre-existence of utilities, parcel size, and central location

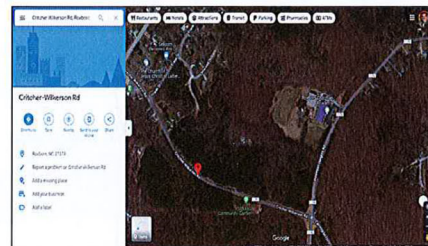
Potential Site Locations	
662 Cedar Grove Church Road	1950 Country Club Road
245 Critcher-Wilkerson Road	717 North Madison Boulevard
601 North Madison Boulevard	North Park Drive Parcel

YourMissionMatters

 MissionCriticalPartners

## Recommended Facility Location

- 245 Critcher-Wilkerson Road
  - Provides space for the building footprint, parking, circulation, and stand-offs
  - Allows for construction of either a one- or two-story facility
  - Provides additional space for future expansion, construction of a storage warehouse, or trailer storage (preferred parcel)
  - Avoids potential hazards/risks that could render the facility uninhabitable
  - Realizes potential cost savings using the existing radio tower
  - Realizes potential efficiencies by collocating public safety divisions in a single facility



YourMissionMatters

 MissionCriticalPartners

Sampson County, NC

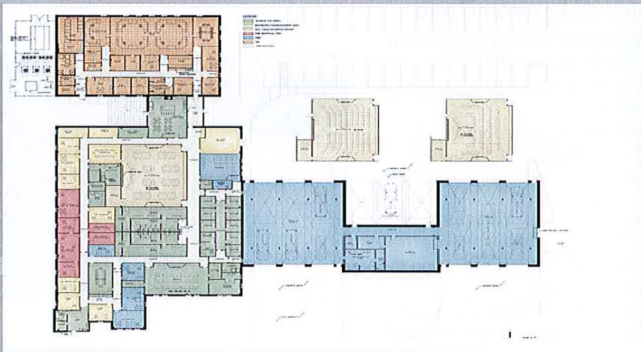
- Emergency Services and 911 Communications facility
  - Departments: Emergency Management, EMS Admin & Operations, Fire Marshal, 911 Communications and 911 Addressing
- 36,589 ft<sup>2</sup> on a 9.5-acre plot  
Total contracted cost = Approx. \$18.4M  
\$3.5M – State Disaster Recovery  
\$5.5M – NC 911 State grant  
\$1.0M – Golden Leaf Foundation



YourMissionMatters

MissionCriticalPartners

Sampson County, NC



YourMissionMatters

MissionCriticalPartners



Iredell County, NC



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

Iredell County, NC



YourMissionMatters

**M** MissionCriticalPartners

Chairman Powell asked about the ownership of the tower on the preferred site located at 245 Critcher-Wilkerson Road to which Mr. Schwalenberg stated it was a state-owned VIPER tower.

Mr. Malloy noted a final report would be distributed to the Board of Commissioners possibly by the end of the week.

Commissioners did not question the need for space but did not know how the county could possibly fund \$38M for this new facility. County Manager Katherine Cathey stated after the Board receives the full report and would like to explore further, staff could evaluate the timeline with funding options that are, at the same time, competing with other needs. Commissioner Puryear thanked Mr. Malloy for the information presented.

#### **COUNTY CAPACITY BUILDING COMPETITIVE GRANT APPLICATION:**

Thomas E. Schwalenberg, Director of the Department of Emergency Services stated the Person County Department of Emergency Services – Office of Emergency Management was seeking permission to apply for the SFY2023 County Capacity Building Competitive Grant (CBCG) through the NC Department of Emergency Management (NCEM). This is a reimbursable grant program with a one-year period of performance. The grant has a limit of \$500,000 dollars per jurisdiction and may not be used for more than two-identified projects, each requiring a separate application. Applications are due to NCEM by March 31, 2023.

Mr. Schwalenberg noted the Person County Office of Emergency Management intended to apply for two projects under the CBCG funding opportunity. Both projects fall under one of the five SFY 2023 funding priorities for NCEM:

- Increasing local mass care and human services capacity
- Preparedness initiatives
- Improving incident management/coordination capacity
- Improving EOC capabilities, to include technology initiatives for continuity of operations purposes
- Resiliency initiatives
- Other items supported by a documented local or regional risk assessment/THIRA

#### **Project #1: Mass Shelter Transfer Switch Install**

Using CBCG funding, install an electrical transfer switch for a generator, and associated electrical upgrades, to Warren's Grove United Methodist Church for the purpose of being used as a Mass Care Shelter during emergencies in accordance with the Person County Emergency Shelter Plan (under revision). This upgrade will give us a secondary shelter location that is centrally located in the county to shelter county residents in case of a natural or manmade incident in which mass sheltering would be needed. It will also provide additional capability, if needed, to open a special functional/ medical needs shelter if needed along with a general population shelter.

**March 20, 2023**



#### Project #2: Mobile EOC/Command Post Upgrade

Using CBCG funding, upgrade the existing Emergency Services mobile command post trailer to be used for on-scene incident management support. This is a shared asset used by all County public safety agencies to support large scale or protracted incident scenes to coordinate and collaborate with incident resources. The mobile command post would be enhanced to include additional communication capabilities, mapping capabilities, incident command and control capabilities and incident briefing capabilities.

Mr. Schwalenberg requested Board approval for Emergency Management to submit the SFY 2023 CBCG up to the maximum grant award amount for the two projects, as presented. Commissioner Puryear asked Mr. Schwalenberg if the grant application required a local match to which Mr. Schwalenberg said there was no match requirement, however, if a grant were only partially funded, he would ask the Board to either fund the remaining portion that was not funded or the Board could not approve acceptance of the grant award. Vice Chairman Sims confirmed there was no guarantee to which Mr. Schwalenberg agreed and said it was a competitive grant process.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear and **carried 5-0** to approve Emergency Management to submit the SFY 2023 CBCG up to the maximum grant award amount for the two projects, as presented.

#### **HUMAN SERVICES COMPLEX NEXT STEPS:**

County Manager Katherine Cathey stated in 2022, Person County (“County”) engaged Newmark to provide real estate advisory services related to the existing lease at 355 South Madison Boulevard, Roxboro (“Building”). The original lease was signed in 2005 with a term of 20 years and expires in July 2025 (“Lease”). Ms. Cathey said the initial goal was to renegotiate the Lease to support the operational needs of Person County’s Health Department and Department of Social Services (“County Departments”).

Ms. Cathey said based on the age and functional obsolescence of the Building, lack of cooperation from the incumbent landlord and their lease terms offered, the County team and Newmark have determined that pursuing a new lease in a modern, efficient, and well-built building would be a better use of the County’s funds. The new facility will provide a custom designed and built platform to support the County Departments’ needs and their respective long-term strategic plans.

Ms. Cathey noted the County team, with the assistance of Newmark and Redline Architecture, developed an in-depth analysis of the current and future needs of the County Departments along with Freedom House and the Office of Juvenile Justice (currently co-located at the Building), that would be provided to the County when completed. In general, Ms. Cathey said they believe that the existing +/- 67,000 SF leased can be consolidated to a smaller footprint, while still providing the needed services required by the County now and in the future.

Ms. Cathey said the County team would like to present this opportunity to the Board and the public and formally request approval to move forward with a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) or similar process to explore the acquisition of a new-leased facility through an alternative delivery approach. As part of this effort, Newmark will continue to perform Real Estate Advisory, Consulting, and Program and Project Management services for the County throughout implementation of the new facility project.

Ms. Cathey noted a complete analysis would be conducted for the County to ensure fiscal sustainability of the new facility via the alternative delivery model. A competitive selection and negotiation process will be performed to engage the private developer / general contractor firms for proposals to provide and include; design, engineering, procurement of materials, construction (core/shell and finishes), along with securing and delivering the financing of the project.

Ms. Cathey asked the Board to determine that a critical need for the project exists and to authorize staff to proceed, with the assistance of Newmark and county-engaged service providers, with the next step in the alternative delivery process as presented.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear and **carried 5-0** determining a critical need for the Human Services Complex exists and to authorize staff to proceed, with the assistance of Newmark and county-engaged service providers, with the next step in the alternative delivery process, as presented.

#### **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

Chairman Powell reported that county officials are involved in close communications with Duke Energy officials and a lobbyist related to the pending closures of the coal-fired power plants.

Chairman Powell reported an update related to the Charters of Freedom project noting local companies have stepped up to provide donation of some portion thereof of the needed concrete, the grading needed, the electrical requirements as well as the flagpole.

#### **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

County Manager Katherine Cathey reported that staff continue to review the Classification and Pay Study report with hopes that the salary range structure will be shared with department directors soon for input. She added the Board would receive the consultant’s report at one of its meetings in April for feedback to include in the Manager’s Recommended Budget for FY24.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORT/COMMENTS:**

Vice Chairman Sims thanked everyone who came to the Board meeting and those presenting the needs for consideration; he added the Board made a good investment with its action to fund \$38M to address the schools' safety, security and ADA needs.

There were no reports from Commissioners Palmer, Puryear and Thomas.

## **CLOSED SESSION #1**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to enter into Closed Session #1 at 11:14am per General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) for the purpose to consult with the county attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege with the following individuals permitted to attend: County Attorney Ellis Hankins, County Manager Katherine Cathey, Clerk to the Board Brenda Reaves, and Planning & Zoning Director Chris Bowley.

Chairman Powell called the Closed Session #1 to order at 11:15am.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Palmer and **carried 5-0** to return to open session at 11:25am.

Chairman Powell called for a brief recess at 11:25am; the meeting was reconvened at 11:31am.

## **CLOSED SESSION #2**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to enter into Closed Session #2 per General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) at 11:31am for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the county (economic development) with the following individuals permitted to attend: County Attorney Ellis Hankins, County Manager Katherine Cathey, Clerk to the Board Brenda Reaves, and Economic Development Director Brandy Lynch.

Chairman Powell called the Closed Session #2 to order at 11:31am.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to return to open session at 12:14pm.

**March 20, 2023**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to adjourn the meeting at 12:15pm.

---

Brenda B. Reaves  
Clerk to the Board

---

Gordon Powell  
Chairman