



**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES OF THE
PAMLICO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023**

The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Patsy H. Sadler room of the Pamlico County Courthouse. Commissioners Missy Baskervill, Kari Forrest, Candy Bohmert, Ed Riggs, Doug Brinson, Pat Prescott, and Carl Ollison were present. Also present were County Attorney Dave Baxter, County Manager Tim Buck, Finance Officer Bill Fentress, and Clerk to the Board Chantelle Allison.

Due to a large turnout from the community, the meeting was moved to the Courtroom.

Chairman Riggs called the meeting to order and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Riggs asked if there were any corrections, additions, and/or deletions to the August 7, 2023 Regular and Closed Session minutes or the August 13, 2023 Special Called Meeting minutes. There was some discussion regarding accuracy of the minutes, and Chairman Riggs called for a motion to table. On a motion made by Commissioner Prescott and seconded by Commissioner Brinson, all referenced minutes were tabled.

Commissioner Riggs invited Sheriff Davis to present his quarterly report to the Board.

Data as of 1/1/2023	
911 Calls	3237
Calls for Deputy Response	5905
Total Calls answered in office	8166
Felony Arrests	221
Misdemeanor Arrests	231
Citations Issued	409
Civil Papers Served	266
EOMP Program per month	6
Federal Inmates per month (avg.)	41
Local Inmates per month (avg.)	51
Other County Inmates	13

Sheriff Davis noted that the Detention Center is now fully staffed, the Sheriff's office has two vacancies (with one expected to be filled by the end of the month), and the Communications Center has one vacancy (expected to be filled by the end of September.) He explained how the Electronic Monitoring Program would help offset medical costs, and said he expected the Jail door lock replacements to be completed within the next day or two. [23-24-036]

Chairman Riggs asked if there were any other additions and/or deletions to the agenda:

1. Commissioner Bohmert made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Baskervill and unanimously approved, to add an item regarding a Debris Removal Contract to the Consent Agenda.
2. Commissioner Baskervill made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Riggs and unanimously approved, to amend the topic regarding an Opioid Contract with a revised version.

3. Commissioner Prescott made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ollison and approved by a vote of 4:3, to add a Resolution to the topic regarding Revised Developer Agreements for affordable multi-family housing. (Ayes: Forrest, Riggs, Prescott, Ollison. Nays: Baskervill, Bohmert, Brinson) Commissioner Baskervill questioned the lack of a supermajority vote to add to agenda.
4. Commissioner Ollison made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Prescott and approved by a vote of 4:3, to add a Public Comment period to the meeting. (Ayes: Forrest, Riggs, Prescott, Ollison. Nays: Baskervill, Bohmert, Brinson) Commissioner Baskervill questioned the lack of a supermajority vote to add to agenda.

Commissioner Riggs called for a short recess to allow time for members of the public who wished to speak, to come sign the Public Comment register.

Public Comment: 9 members of the public signed up to speak; all of whom wished to voice their support or opposition to the Affordable Housing (NCORR) project under consideration by the Board.

Ms. Brandi Robertson spoke in favor of the project, stating her grandmother would have benefitted from this type of housing, along with teachers, her own employees that couldn't find housing locally and ended up finding jobs & housing elsewhere.

Mr. Patrick "Sarge" O'Donnell echoed Ms. Robertson's comments, but did mention concerns regarding the increased needs for law enforcement, healthcare, utilities, etc.

Mr. Douglas Pearsall spoke in favor of the project, stating children, parents, and seniors need housing, and that an affordable housing option was very needed.

Mr. Bob Fuller spoke in favor of the project, citing the need for replacement housing due to many homes that were lost due to hurricanes or other storms.

Mr. Edwin Hege spoke in opposition to the project, stating the project would benefit a few people at the cost of taxpayers, and thought taxes were too high in Pamlico County, and said there were no good jobs in the County.

Ms. Jane Potter spoke in opposition to the project, stating the proposed location already has lots of vehicle accidents in that area, and was concerned for people's safety.

Mr. David Wickersham spoke in opposition to the project; he felt the previous Special Called Meeting for this topic was not an emergency if it was being revisited this night, and that the motion failed at the Special Called Meeting and he didn't feel the Board should be revisiting the topic again.

Mr. Mark McCloskey spoke on behalf of Halcon Development/East Point Homes, stating this project was not subsidized housing, a grant/mortgage would cover the building cost.

Mr. Bobby Funk spoke on behalf of Mills Construction, citing the same, noting it was disaster relief funds that made the grant possible.

Chairman Riggs then closed the Public Comment Period and the Board continued to the Consent Agenda.

On a motion made by Commissioner Baskervill and seconded by Commissioner Bohmert, the following resolutions were unanimously approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, the following FY23-24 Budget Amendment(s) are hereby approved

[23-24-037].

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (+) INCREASED	AMOUNT(-) DECREASED
100000-439900	Fund Balance App	\$ 994.22	
104930-549880	Senior Services Tours	\$ 994.22	

Reason for Budget Revision: To move unused funds donated for tours to current year.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request for approval of the Tax Office Board Releases is hereby approved, and the Chairman’s signature is authorized thereon [23-24-038].

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to adopt the 2023 IRS rates for Travel and Per-diem reimbursements, and amend the County Travel Policy to reflect the same, is hereby approved [23-24-039].

	Current	2023 Rates
Mileage	0.625	0.655
Breakfast	9	13
Lunch	13	15
Dinner	24	26

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to adopt a Budget Ordinance for the 2022 CDBG-NR program and authorize the Chairman and staff to sign as necessary, is hereby approved [23-24-040].

GRANT PROGRAM BUDGET - PAMLICO COUNTY
2022 CDBG NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION (CDBG-NR) PROGRAM

Be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of Pamlico County, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, Pamlico County adopts the following Grant Program Budget:

Section 1. The Program authorized is the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Program (CDBG-NR) described in the work statement contained Grant Agreement 21-C-4030 between this unit and the State of North Carolina. This project is more familiarly known as the Pamlico County 2022 CDBG-NR Program.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the Grant Program Budget within the terms of the grant documents, the rules and regulations and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this Program:

Community Development Funds	\$	2,280,400.00
Other Revenues		0.00
TOTAL	\$	2,280,400.00

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the Program:

C-1 Private Rehabilitation	2,052,400.00
C-1 Administration	228,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,280,400.00

Section 5. The finance officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Grant Program Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to provide the accounting to the grantor agency required by the grant

agreement and federal and state regulations and is authorized to sign Budget Revisions to amend this budget within limits authorized for budget changes not requiring a program amendment.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Funds for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursement requests should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Adopted this 21st day of August, 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request from Emergency Manager Chris Murray to sell the surplus 2017 Dodge Ram 2500 to Olympia Volunteer Fire Dept. for no less than \$13,000, authorize the County Manager to advertise the intent to sell and negotiate the private sale as outlined in §160A-279, is hereby approved [23-24-041].

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to authorize the County Manager to award the Debris Clearing Contract, select a primary and secondary contractor, and sign necessary contract documents, is hereby approved [23-24-046].

The Board then turned their attention to the Correspondence Agenda.

On a motion made by Commissioner Baskervill, seconded by Commissioner Brinson and unanimously approved, Commissioner Forrest was recused from the discussion and vote pertaining to the following Great Grant Application discussion.

Then on a motion made by Commissioner Brinson, and seconded by Commissioner Bohmert, the following resolution was unanimously approved (6:0, Recused: Forrest)

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to use Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) money to fund an unawarded Great Grant Application from Connect Holdings, LLC (Brightspeed), approve the County match (expected to be less than \$300,000) using available ARPA Revenue Replacement Funds, and authorization for the Chairman and staff to sign necessary MOU/Grant documents, is hereby approved [23-24-042].

On a motion made by Commissioner Brinson and seconded by Commissioner Bohmert, the following resolution was unanimously approved. The MOU's were revised prior to approval to contain language stating funds would be distributed on a reimbursement basis.

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds and approve MOU's with Bayboro Development, Heartworks, Hosed Place, Hope Clinic and Jo Jo Working, is hereby approved [23-24-043].

Chairman Riggs recapped the timeline and events that took place regarding the NCORR Affordable Housing Grant process. There was discussion and attorney opinion regarding reconsidering a revised version of the Developer Agreements when the original motion at a previous meeting to approve the agreements had failed, and procedures and vote requirements for adding or deleting items on the agenda.

Some Commissioners voiced their concerns, including water/sewer supply needs, safety concerns, narrow income limits to qualify for housing, the need for this type of housing, federal government regulations and/or changes, and feeling rushed to make a decision on the project. Other Commissioners commented on the success of similar projects in other areas of the state, noting that all housing units were full, the economic developer and law enforcement stated they had no issues with the housing units, and the property itself was very attractive and well kept. They also mentioned accepting federal grant

funds for other projects without major concerns, and that the Town of Grantsboro, where the housing would be built, was very much in favor of the idea, had taken measures to rezone the proposed location(s) and had requested the County's support and approval of the project.

On a motion made by Commissioner Ollison and seconded by Commissioner Prescott, the following resolution was approved by a vote of 4:3 (Ayes: Forrest, Riggs, Prescott, Ollison. Nays: Baskervill, Bohmert, Brinson.)

BE IT RESOLVED, the request to approve a Resolution in Support of the Development of Affordable Multi-Family Housing within Pamlico County, and approve modified Developer Agreements (to include language to ensure that any awardees remain nonexempt for ad valorem property tax) with Halcon Development, LLC/East Point Home, LLC and Mills Property Development, LLC is hereby approved [23-24-044].

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING WITHIN PAMLICO COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Pamlico recognizes the need for affordable housing, especially for our workforce; and

WHEREAS, the County of Pamlico understands that it is difficult for many workers and their families to stay in the County due to the lack of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the County of Pamlico values the ability of people of all ages and abilities, across a variety of backgrounds and professions, to live in our community; and

WHEREAS, the County of Pamlico seeks opportunities for the development of affordable housing units to facilitate stable and affordable housing; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Pamlico resolves to work with landowners and developers that can potentially provide affordable workforce housing for the residents of the County and surrounding areas. This resolution also indicates support for the currently proposed projects that have been presented to the County.

ADOPTED this 21st day of August, 2023 by the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Riggs called for a short recess to allow the members of the public to exit before going into Closed Session.

On a motion made by Commissioner Baskervill, seconded by Commissioner Riggs, and unanimously approved, the Board went into Closed Session for discussion regarding Attorney/Client Privilege and Personnel [N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3)(6)]. Time Recorded: 9:00pm [23-24-045]

During Closed Session discussion, Commissioners Prescott and Baskervill had to leave for the night due to personal obligations.

No action was taken in Closed Session.

On a motion made by Commissioner Bohmert, seconded by Commissioner Riggs, and approved by a vote of 5:0 (Absent: Prescott, Baskervill), the Board went back into Open Session. Time Recorded: 9:51pm

There being no further business, on a motion made by Commissioner Riggs and seconded by

Commissioner Bohmert, the Board adjourned until next regular meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:00pm. Time Recorded: 9:52pm.

Chairman

Clerk to the Board