

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY**

Greensboro, North Carolina
November 5, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on November 5, 2020 at 5:30PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Phillips, presiding; Vice Chairman Alan Perdue; Commissioners Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston and Hank Henning.

ABSENT: Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Marty Lawing; County Attorney Mark Payne; Deputy County Manager Clarence Grier; Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director; Robert Shelly, Veterans Services Director; J. Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director; Dan Durham, Facilities/Property Management/Parks Director; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; Heather Skeens, DHHS Director; Don Campbell, Emergency Management Division Director; members of staff and media. Virtual participation was made available to members of the public and media.

I. INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Alan Perdue requested a moment of silence in honor of Deputy Sheriff Krause.

Board Chaplain Ben Chavis offered the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Jeff Phillips led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:45PM and welcomed those present. He introduced the addendum to the agenda for Board consideration.

There being no objections, the Board approved the addendum to the agenda by general consensus.

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Mr. Steve Pruitt, Guilford County Schools maintenance employee, spoke to the need for employee pay raises. He stated that while the Board provided school funding, but no raises were included the budget for grounds crew staff. Mr. Pruitt requested additional pay consideration and stated school administration asked employees to reach out to the Board of Commissioners for employee salaries.

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. 2020-391 PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE AND REMEMBRANCE OF VETERANS DAY

Adopt proclamation in observance and remembrance of Veterans Day.

Legislation Text

Commissioner Hank Henning read the proclamation into the minutes.

Robert Shelley, Veterans Services Director, spoke to the need to address mental healthcare for veterans, as their suicide rates continue to increase. He noted his office is working on ways to improve its outreach program and shared there is so much more the county can do to help support veterans and their families.

- B. 2020-401 PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 2020 AS PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN GUILFORD COUNTY

Adopt proclamation in observance of November 2020 as Pancreatic Awareness Month in Guilford County.

Legislation Text

Commissioner Justin Conrad shared his privilege to recognize November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month and emphasized the need for early detection and awareness. He read the proclamation into the minutes. Commissioner Conrad requested Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director, step forward to receive the proclamation.

Dr. Vann thanked the Board for the proclamation and shared statistics related to pancreatic cancer. She stressed the importance of early detection and understanding the associated risks.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Hank Henning, to adopt the consent agenda.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Hank Henning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn. Q. Coleman

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. 2020-374 DHHS - PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION: BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD - ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE CARRY-OVER FUNDS - \$31,597

Approve an increase of \$31,597 in Appropriated Fund Balance and increase the FY 2020-21 Health & Human Services - Public Health Division budget by the same amount to reflect carry-over of unspent funds for the School-Based Oral Health Initiative Program. Funds will be used for staff, supplies and equipment costs.

Legislation Text

2. 2020-416 DHHS - PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION BUDGET AMENDMENT: IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN - \$71,236

Approve an increase of \$71,236 in Federal/State Revenues and increase the FY 2020-21 Health & Human Services - Public Health Division budget by the same amount to reflect revenues awarded from the NC Division of Public Health, Women's and Children's Health Section/ Immunization. Funds will be used implement innovative local solutions to achieve increased vaccination coverage.

Legislation Text

3. 2020-417 DHHS - PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION BUDGET AMENDMENT: WIC CLIENT SERVICES - \$79,488

Approve an increase of \$79,488 in Federal/State Revenues and increase the FY 2020-21 Health & Human Services - Public Health Division budget by the same amount to reflect revenues awarded from the NC Division of Public Health, Women's and Children's Health/Nutrition Services Branch for the WIC Client Services Program.

Legislation Text

4. 2020-414 APPROVE RECEIPT OF NC FOUNDATION FOR SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500 FOR AN OUTDOOR EDUCATION LEARNING CENTER (PROJECT #: EPA-19-08)

Approve receipt of \$2,500 grant funds to provide financial support for Guilford Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) for establishment of an Outdoor Learning Center (OELC) at SE Guilford Middle School to educate and demonstrate the importance of soil health, food and crop production, and conservation of natural resources; approve a \$2,500 increase in Other Revenues and increase the FY 2020-21 Soil & Water Conservation budget by the same amount.

[Legislation Text](#)

[OELC Grant](#)

[SWCD 2020 OELC BoardLetter](#)

[2020 09 Guilford SWCD Minutes](#)

5. 2020-405 APPROPRIATION OF PRIOR YEAR GRANT FUNDS FOR EMPLOYEE INNOVATION LABS

Approve an increase of \$3,187 in Appropriated Fund Balance and increase the FY 2020-21 Budget, Management & Evaluation budget by the same amount to reflect the appropriation of unspent grant funds received to provide employee innovation workshops.

[Legislation Text](#)

B. CONTRACTS

1. 2020-403 LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE AT THE HIGH POINT COURTHOUSE TO THE NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Approve, in substantial form, a one (1) year lease extension for office space at the Guilford County Courthouse, High Point, NC, to the NC Office of Administrative Hearings and authorize staff to take all reasonable actions to finalize and execute said lease extension.

[Legislation Text](#)

[CM 2502 - NC OFF OF ADM HEARING](#)

2. 2020-408 PURCHASE OF TWO EASEMENTS ON BANDERA FARMS PROPERTY FOR FUTURE PIEDMONT GREENWAY

Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding and Open Space Easement and Right of Way documents, in substantial form, and authorization of staff to take all reasonable actions to finalize and execute said documents; and approval for use of \$165,000 in Open Space capital project funds to purchase the easements from Piedmont Land Conservancy as part of their acquisition of the Bandera Farms property.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Bandera GIS-10202020174823](#)

[MOU.draft.9.24.20 \(latest as of 10-6-20\)-r1-CLEAN](#)

[Bandera Open Space Easement 9-22-20 v2-PLCr3-CLEAN](#)

[Bandera 325 ft buffer-10202020174900](#)

[Executive Summary Piedmont Greenway Revised 3-20](#)

3. 2020-409 CASCADES PRESERVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE TOWN OF OAK RIDGE

Approve, in substantial form, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Oak Ridge for five years from November 1, 2020, through October 31, 2025 regarding the monitoring, maintenance, and management of Cascades Preserve.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Cascades Nature Preserve MOU Renewal Final Draft 11-1-20](#)

4. 2020-413 UNITE GREENSBORO JAIL MINISTRY, INC

Approve multi-year contract with UNITE Greensboro Ministry, Inc., in substantial form, for purposes of contracted jail ministry, for a term of four years for a total amount of \$375,000. (75,000 for year one; and 100,000 per year for years 2, 3 and 4) Funding for year one was included in the FY 2020-21 budget.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Unite Greensboro Jail Ministry 20-21 contract revised \(002\)](#)

[GCJM Statement of Work with Exhibits 4851-9753-6429 v.1](#)

5. 2020-420 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF JAMESTOWN FOR PARTICIPATION IN GUILFORD COUNTY LOCAL COVID-19 REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Approve intergovernmental agreement with the City of Jamestown for participation in the Guilford County Local Government COVID-19 Reimbursement Program.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Jamestown Coronavirus Intergovernmental Agreement Signed\[36753\].pdf](#)

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. 2020-386 PROPERTY TAX REBATES AND RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Accept and approve property tax rebates and releases for the month ending September 30, 2020.

[Legislation Text](#)

[September 2020 NCVTS Pending Refund Report.pdf](#)

[September 2020 Rebate and Releases.pdf](#)

2. 2020-385 TAX COLLECTION AND BEVERAGE LICENSE REPORTS FOR MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Accept and approve the tax collection report and beverage licenses issued for month ending September 30, 2020.

[Legislation Text](#)

[401C All Guilford 9-30-2020.pdf](#)

[Bev 9-30-2020 Detail.pdf](#)

3. 2020-406 SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Approve, in substantial form, the sale of surplus property located at 2846 2848 Lees Chapel Road, Greensboro; 800 Meredith Street, High Point; 723 Minneola Street, Gibsonville and 3248 US Highway 158, Stokesdale to the current highest bidder and authorize staff to take all reasonable and necessary steps to execute the sale of the property.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Lees Chapel T&S-10152020184453](#)

[Meredith Songster-10152020184541](#)

[Minneola Songster-10162020154349](#)

[US 158 Songster-10152020184651](#)

4. 2020-407 DUKE ENERGY EASEMENT, 931 THIRD STREET, GREENSBORO

Approval for the requested easement, in substantial form, to Duke Energy Carolinas and authorize staff to take all reasonable actions to finalize and execute said easement.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Duke Pwr Ease - 3rd St GIS](#)

[Duke Pwr Ease - 3rd St easement](#)

[Duke Pwr Ease - 3rd St - construction map](#)

5. 2020-392 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the following sets of minutes:
10/01/2020 Regular Meeting
10/15/2020 Work Session

[Legislation Text](#)

[dm100120.pdf](#)

[dmws10.15.20.pdf](#)

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. 2020-415 PUBLIC HEARING: UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

Hold a public hearing on the Unified Development Ordinance.

[Legislation Text](#)

[UDO BCC Public Hearing Draft 2020](#)

[Proposed Revisions to Zoning District Designations Table](#)

[BCC Staff Report UDO](#)

[3-BCC Zoning Statement_06321](#)

[3-UDO ZoningMap Posting Overall Rev](#)

[Draft-Minutes Oct 14 2020 \(combined edits\) \(1\)](#)

[Draft-Minutes_Oct 15 2020](#)

Chairman Phillips discussed the rules of procedure for the public hearing and reminded the Board that, the Board will conduct a final vote on the item during their next regular meeting on November 19, 2020.

J. Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director, introduced the item and discussed the stakeholder meetings and workshops held to assist with development of the ordinance. He stated the current development ordinance is 28 years old. Bell confirmed the draft ordinance presented tonight is in compliance with state statutes, and is reorganized to be more user-friendly and easier to read.

Bell noted the zoning nomenclature is now consistent with those for the cities of Greensboro and High Point, and reviewed the next steps in adopting the ordinance. He shared the request includes the option to allow the previous ordinance to remain in effect for up to a year after adoption to allow builders to refer to the old ordinance, in the event of an issue that was not addressed in the new ordinance.

Chairman Phillips opened the floor for public hearing comments regarding the new unified development ordinance (UDO).

Mr. Jimmy Morgan, local farmer and UDO Steering Committee member, thanked staff and the consultants for simplifying the process and spoke to the disintegration of rural communities. He shared that as a fifth-generation farmer he has noticed increasing water run-off into creeks and ponds from local farms, and spoke to the importance of the County enforcing stormwater run-off regulations. Mr. Morgan shared North Carolina is one of the states leading the nation in the loss and farmland and emphasized the need to protect the economy by preserving our farmlands.

There being no further in-person or virtual proponents or opponents, Chairman Phillips closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Melvin “Skip” Alston questioned the effective date of the ordinance.

Bell confirmed the ordinance would become effective upon adoption with the old ordinance remaining in effect for a year after adoption.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2020-412 CLERK OF COURT CUBICLE REPLACEMENT, GREENSBORO COURTHOUSE

Approve spending \$320,000 to replace the existing cubicles in the Clerk of Court area of the Greensboro Courthouse as requested by the Clerk of Superior Court and approve a \$320,000 increase in appropriated fund balance and an increase in the FY 2020-21 Facilities budget by the same amount for the purchase.

Legislation Text

Reidsville's Office City Cubicle Quote 9-18-20

Reidsville's Office City Clerk of Court Cubicle Dwgs

Dan Durham, Facilities/Property Management/Parks Director reviewed the request for replacement of the existing cubicles within the Clerk of Court's area of the Greensboro courthouse.

Vice Chairman Perdue questioned if the carpeting underneath the cubicles needed replacement.

Durham stated that the carpet in the area is only four (4) years old while the cubicles are approximately 25 years old.

Motion was made by Commissioner Melvin "Skip" Alston, and seconded by J. Carlvena Foster, to approve spending \$320,000 to replace the existing cubicles in the Clerk of Court area of the Greensboro Courthouse as requested by the Clerk of Superior Court and approve a \$320,000 increase in appropriated fund balance and an increase in the FY 2020-21 Facilities budget by the same amount for the purchase.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Hank Henning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

B. 2020-418 DHHS - PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION BUDGET AMENDMENT:
ADMINISTRATION - CARES ACT - \$603,148

Approve an increase of \$603,148 in Federal/State Revenues and increase the FY 2020-21 Health & Human Services - Public Health Division budget by the same amount to reflect revenues awarded from the NC Division of Public Health, Administrative, Local and Community Support/Local Technical Assistance and Training Section for COVID-19 relief.

[Legislation Text](#)

Dr. Vann introduced the item and reviewed the areas that would utilize these additional funds to help address and mitigate the Public Health department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Branson, to approve an increase of \$603,148 in Federal/State Revenues and increase the FY 2020-21 Health & Human Services - Public Health Division budget by the same amount to reflect revenues awarded from the NC Division of Public Health, Administrative, Local and Community Support/Local Technical Assistance and Training Section for COVID-19 relief.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Hank Henning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

IX. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE

Dr. Vann reviewed the metrics related to new COVID-19 cases and positivity rates within North Carolina and discussed the current drivers of the most recent spike in new cases. She noted the number of cases in long-term care facilities are on the rise within our community and shared approximately 85% of COVID-related fatalities have been person over age 65.

Chairman Phillips questioned the correlation between testing and the number of positive cases and questioned the potential reasons attributed to the increased positivity rate at this time.

Dr. Vann stated the increase number of positive cases could be attributed to a combination of several factors, including cooler weather creating a favorable environment for virus transmission and increased activities available within the community, resulting in more interaction between family members and friends. She shared staff have done a good job promoting symptomology as those who previously attributed mild symptoms to colds or allergies are now getting tested for COVID when these symptoms present.

Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster spoke to the school's recent decisions regarding reopening schools, and noted they are now basing these decisions on the volume of positive cases within the community. She questioned the current number of positive cases.

Dr. Vann reviewed the most current data and shared they are still observing a higher number of cases over the past seven (7) days. She noted they are working with several schools where they have identified positive COVID cases.

Commissioner Foster questioned if the Public Health department sponsored recent COVID testing sites at Greater New Hope Baptist Church and Living Water Baptist Church in High Point, NC.

Dr. Vann and Don Campbell, Emergency Management Division Director, confirmed Public Health coordinated the testing sites.

Commissioner Foster thanked her for the partnership and expressed her appreciation for Dr. Vann and staff answering questions related to childcare centers and the safety of children during the pandemic.

Commissioner Alston questioned the efforts to address the increases in new COVID cases in areas with colleges and long-term facilities.

Dr. Vann shared the map images represents an overall distribution of cases within these communities, not just new COVID cases in these facilities.

Commissioner Alston expressed interest in viewing map images that pinpoint hotspots of new COVID cases by zip code. He spoke to the need to establish a working group that will address and eliminate these hot spots.

Chairman Phillips referenced the listing of congregate living outbreaks provided by Emergency Services daily, and noted a fewer number of associated deaths compared to earlier in the pandemic. He questioned if improved protocols and policies attributed to the mitigation of this rate in this setting.

Dr. Vann confirmed long-term facilities are now receiving sufficient amounts of personal protective equipment (PPE), and noted that when combined with improved policies and increased testing of staff and patients, the number of associated deaths has decreased.

Campbell provided an overview of CARES grant funding. He stated all \$20 million of the Small Business Grant program funding has been allocated and over \$4.2 million has been allocated through the Non-Profit Grant program. Campbell shared the first round of applications for the Economic Development Grant program were received and a total of approximately \$167,000 has been allocated, to date.

Commissioner Alston questioned if staff had received any notices regarding extending CARES Grant funding beyond the December 1, 2020 deadline.

County Manager Marty Lawing noted there is less than sixty (60) days remaining to expend all fund prior to December 30 and presented a draft letter to the Board that would be forward to the Guilford County legislative delegation requesting an extension to continue using CARES funding for much needed resources in the new calendar year.

Commissioner Alston questioned how long will staff wait after sending the letter before reevaluating current funds and spending patterns.

Lawing confirmed certain decisions must be made in December.

By general consensus, the Board directed staff to send a letter to the Guilford delegation requesting an extension of the deadline to use CARES funding.

Commissioner Conrad questioned the status of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Campbell stated staff are scheduled to meet next week to discuss distribution processes though they have not received guidance on funding mechanisms.

Commissioner Conrad emphasized the need to prioritize vaccine distributions to identified “hotspot” areas within the county.

Dr. Vann confirmed the first round of vaccines will be prioritized for specific groups such as long-term care residents, health care staff and essential workers. She shared the potential for increased vaccine availability in the spring for mass distribution within the community.

Heather Skeens, DHHS Director, provided an update on the remote learning program for those children who are not able to attend school but still need a curriculum program to progress in their education. She shared the program was extended through November and is now serving 160 children.

Skeens provided an update on the hand sanitizer and mask distribution program. She noted all 50,000 masks and 25,000 bottles of hand sanitizer have been distributed throughout the county. Skeens confirmed they are preparing to distribute an additional 40,000 masks and requested recommendations for any areas within the county that may benefit from a distribution.

Chairman Phillips thanked staff for all of their hard work and efforts during this crisis.

X. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

A. 2020-387 APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Approve the following appointments and reappointments to various boards and commissions:

Fire District Commission - Summerfield

Appoint Mike Page to 1st term (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2022)

Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Appoint Kimberly E. Cephas to 1st term as Guilford County District Attorney Designee (November 5, 2020 - September 30, 2022)

Appoint Sondra D. Foy to 1st term as Member of Business Community (November 5, 2020 - September 30, 2022)

Guilford County Planning Board

Appoint David B. Craft to 1st term as At-Large Designee (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2023)

Guilford County Tourism Development Authority

Reappoint Mac Sims to 2nd term as Member At-Large (October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2023)

High Point Convention and Visitors Board

Appoint Derek Cress to 1st term as Small Hotels Representative (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2022)

Reappoint James McNeil to 2nd term as At-Large Designee (November 6, 2020 - November 5, 2022)

[Legislation Text](#)

[MPage App 101920 Redact.pdf](#)

[KCephas App 09.22.20.pdf](#)

[KCephas Resume 09.22.20.pdf](#)

[SFoy App 013020.pdf](#)

[MSims Reapp 092220.pdf](#)

[MSims Resume 092220.pdf](#)

[DCress App Recommend 102120.pdf](#)

[JMcNeil Reapp Recommend 102120.pdf](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hank Henning, and seconded by Commissioner Justin Conrad, to approve the following appointments and reappointments, and exception reappointments to various boards and commissions:

Fire District Commission - Summerfield

Appoint Mike Page to 1st term (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2022)

Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Appoint Kimberly E. Cephas to 1st term as Guilford County District Attorney Designee (November 5, 2020 - September 30, 2022)

Appoint Sondra D. Foy to 1st term as Member of Business Community (November 5, 2020 - September 30, 2022)

Guilford County Planning Board

Appoint David B. Craft to 1st term as At-Large Designee (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2023)

Guilford County Tourism Development Authority

Reappoint Mac Sims to 2nd term as Member At-Large (October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2023)

High Point Convention and Visitors Board

Appoint Derek Cress to 1st term as Small Hotels Representative (November 5, 2020 - November 4, 2022)

Reappoint James McNeil to 2nd term as At-Large Designee (November 6, 2020 - November 5, 2022)

Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Reappoint Carie Jones-Barrow to 4th term as United Way Representative (October 5, 2020 - October 4, 2022)

Guilford County Board of Adjustment

Reappoint Carey D. Campbell to 3rd term in Alternate position (October 21, 2020 - October 20, 2023)

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Hank Henning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

B. 2020-388 EXCEPTION REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Approve the following exception reappointments to various boards and commissions:

Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Reappoint Carie Jones-Barrow to 4th term as United Way Representative (October 5, 2020 - October 4, 2022)

Guilford County Board of Adjustment

Reappoint Carey D. Campbell to 3rd term in Alternate position (October 21, 2020 - October 20, 2023)

[Legislation Text](#)

[CCampbell Reapp 100620.pdf](#)

[CCampbell Term Exempt Letter 102720](#)

[CJones-Barrow Reapp 092820.pdf](#)

[CJones-Barrow Resume 092820.pdf](#)

[CJones-Barrow Term Exempt Letter 092820.pdf](#)

XI. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

Lawing provided an update on the decennial Census report received last week and noted the county's final self-response rate of 69.5%, which places Guilford within the top 10% of response rates, statewide.

Commissioner Alston expressed concerns with the potential loss of federal funding due to the decreased self-response rate.

Lawing shared the state's response rate is 99.9% and spoke to the appeal process available if the county does not agree with the final numbers resulting from the Census.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Branson spoke to the interesting week related to early and absentee voting and the pending status of the election results. He stressed that he is an advocate for fair, due process for both parties with regards to the results.

Commissioner Conrad expressed his appreciation for Planning & Development Director, J. Leslie Bell, who addressed a citizen's concerns in a timely manner.

Commissioner Foster expressed her appreciation for the High Point Economic Development Corporation and their efforts to improve economic development within High Point and Guilford County. She extended congratulations to Reverend Frank Thomas on receipt of the NCCJ Citation Award and expressed her appreciation for Bell's responsiveness to citizens and Board members with planning and development questions.

Commissioner Cashion shared she has been appointed to serve on the NC Association of County Commissioners Legislative Goals Committee and noted the steering committees will assemble next week to begin vetting the goals submitted by counties. She encouraged the Board to participate in these virtual meetings that will occur during this process, and noted the Legislative Goals committee will then vet and submit final goals to the Board of Directors. Cashion encouraged all Board members to participate in the steering committees and direct legislative goals to her so they can be included on the list.

Chairman Phillips thanked the Board for its willingness to become a collaborative applicant for the Guilford County Continuum of Care (CoC). He thanked Commissioners Cashion, Foster and Conrad for their close work with the team and development of this partnership. He spoke to the recent ribbon-cutting for the EMS Maintenance & Logistics facility and expressed his honor in being part of the Board that was able to bring this project to fruition.

Commissioner Foster shared her recent attendance at the announcement of the High Point Community Investment campaign where High Point University made a \$500,000 matching gift towards a \$1 million contribution towards the initiative to support minority businesses within the community.

XIII. HOLD CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a) (3) and (6) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AND TO CONSIDER AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE REQUEST.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Branson, to hold closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a) (3) and (6) for the purpose of consulting with the County Attorney and to consider an economic development incentive request.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Justin Conrad, J. Carlvena Foster, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Hank Henning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

The Board recessed the meeting at 7:30PM.

The Board reconvened the meeting from closed session at 7:56PM.

XIV. ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:56PM.

Jeffrey M. Phillips, Chairman

Robin Keller, Clerk