



**MINUTES**  
**Board of County Commissioners Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:00 PM**  
**Pender County Public Assembly Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fred McCoy  
Jacqueline A. Newton  
Jerry Groves  
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee  
Brad George

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** David Andrews, County Manager  
Trey Thurman, County Attorney  
Patrick Buffkin, Staff Attorney  
Lexi Stanfield, Clerk to the Board  
Allen Vann, Assistant County Manager  
Other Staff and Members of the Press and Public.

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 Chair George called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

**2 INVOCATION**

2.1 Commissioner Hardee gave the invocation.

**3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3.1 Commissioner McCoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee, seconded by Jacqueline A. Newton

*Motion to Adopt the Agenda*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			

Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

**5 PUBLIC HEARING**

**6 PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**7 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

**8 CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Approval to add Schedule 004 to the Master Technology Lease Agreement with Huntington Technology Financing in the Amount of \$568,237.81 for 43 months and a PO in the amount of \$79,294.02.

Moved by Fred McCoy, seconded by Jacqueline A. Newton

*Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

8.2 Refund/Release Requests for items meeting NC G.S 105-381

8.3 Motor Vehicle Releases and Refunds

8.4 Approval of Purchase Order and funds from General Fund for the purchase of 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Explorer in the amount of \$57,729.00.

8.5 November 20, 2023, BOCC Meeting Minutes

8.6 December 4, 2023, BOCC Meeting Minutes

**9 APPROVALS AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 9.1 Authorization to Proceed with Closing on Purchase of Real Property and Related Budget Ordinance Amendment & Purchase Order - 795 acres +/- Off Hwy 210, Hampstead PIN-Partial of 3282-15-9252-0000

Meg Blue, Finance Director, presented the item. This property went into contract in 2023. It was purchased from Utilities for a Water Plant location at \$5,350,000. The cost comes out of the enterprise fund.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Fred McCoy

*Motion to Approve Authorization to Proceed with Closing on Purchase of Real Property and Related Budget Ordinance Amendment & Purchase Order - 795 acres +/- Off Hwy 210, Hampstead PIN-Partial of 3282-15-9252-0000*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

- 9.2 Authorization to Proceed with Closing on Purchase of Real Property and Related Budget Ordinance Amendment & Purchase Order - Several Parcels off of US Hwy 17, Hampstead for Water Plant Discharge Site

Meg Blue, Finance Director, presented this item. This property is approximately 28 acres and comprised of several parcels owned by a single owner. This property will be the discharge site for the aforementioned water plant. This will be paid for out of the enterprise fund.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to Approve Authorization to Proceed with Closing on Purchase of Real Property and Related Budget Ordinance Amendment & Purchase Order - Several Parcels off of US Hwy 17, Hampstead for Water Plant Discharge Site*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>

Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

9.3 Approval of BOA & PO to Bordeaux Construction for Design-Build School Bond Project for \$5,003,800 for Design Phase

Meg Blue, Finance Director, presented this item. This is the contract for the design phase for the design build project with board of construction that the school board has approved. This item is so Pender County can pay the contractor with the school bond funds.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to Approve BOA & PO to Bordeaux Construction for Design-Build School Bond Project for \$5,003,800 for Design Phase*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

**10 DISCUSSION**

**11 APPOINTMENTS**

**12 MAPLE HILL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**13 ROCKY POINT WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**14 SCOTTS HILL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**15 MOORES CREEK WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**16 CENTRAL PENDER WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**17 PENDER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**18 SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD**

**19 PUBLIC COMMENT**

19.1 Debbie Walker addressed the Board to voice her concerns with the approval of a permit for Malpass Corner. Ms. Walker voiced concerns of the Board potentially approving permits for businesses that create environmental issues. She urged the Board to consider the residents when making approvals.

19.2 Conway Murphy addressed the Board to voice his opposition to an upcoming request to rezone a property from rural agricultural to conditional. Mr. Murphy stated his opposition is due to the environmental impact that the owner of the property will have.

**20 ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, COUNTY MANAGER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGERS, & COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

20.1 Trey Thurman requested the Board go into closed session for item three (3) attorney client privilege including the discussion of Sullivan versus Pender County 20 CVS 752, 23 CVS 1186 Pender County versus Wilmingham, 23 CVS 1262, item four (4) Economic Development, item five (5) Acquisition of Real Property, and item six (6) Personnel.

20.2 Commissioner Groves wished the public a happy new year.

20.3 Commissioner Hardee wished the public a happy new year.

20.4 Commissioner McCoy briefly spoke about his time at the Blueberry Drop. He wished the public a happy new year.

20.5 Vice Chair Newton gave her condolences to the family and friends of Ethan Edwards, FSA Director, as he passed over the holidays. She gave a brief update on the 421- water expansion. Vice Chair Newton also spoke about a citizen who had received a violation from the planning department. Planning gives violations based on the complaints from citizens. She asked citizens to go about doing business differently. She asked for the commissioners to change the ordinances.

20.6 Chair George thanked Vice Chair Newton for her comments. He briefly spoke about his experience at the Blueberry drop as well.

**21 CLOSED SESSION (IF APPLICABLE).**

21.1 The Board entered into closed session at 4:23PM.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to go into closed session for item three (3), item four (4), item five (5), and item six (6).*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

21.2 The Board returned to open session at 6:35PM.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to amend the agenda and add the appointment of Brett Keeler, Jacqueline A. Newton, Denise Houghton, Myra McDuffie, and Willie Armstrong to the Pender Memorial Hospital Board.*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to approve the appointment of Brett Keeler, Jacqueline A. Newton, Denise Houghton, Myra McDuffie, and Willie Armstrong to the Pender Memorial Hospital Board.*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			

Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

**22 ADJOURNMENT**

22.1 The meeting adjourned at 6:40PM.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to adjourn the meeting.*

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
Brad George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.