



**MINUTES**  
**Board of County Commissioners Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 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  
 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 McCoy gave the invocation.

**3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3.1 Commissioner Groves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

*Motion to Adopt the Agenda without items 17.1 and 17.2.*

	<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 CLOSED SESSION (IF APPLICABLE). OPEN SESSION TO RESUME AT 5:00PM**

5.1 Trey Thurman, County Attorney, requested the Board go into closed session pursuant to item three (3) Attorney Client Privilege, item four (4) Economic Development, and item five (5) Aquisition of Real Property.

Moved by Fred McCoy, seconded by Jacqueline A. Newton

*Motion to go into closed session pursuant to item three (3) Attorney Client Privilege, item four (4) Economic Development, and item five (5) Aquisition of Real Property.*

	<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.

5.2 The Board returned from closed session at 5:05PM.

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

*Motion to return to open session.*

	<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.

**6 PUBLIC INFORMATION**

6.1 Update on 2026 Reappraisal Policy & Fieldwork procedures

Melissa Radke, Tax Administrator, presented the item. At the March 11, 2024, BOCC meeting the Board requested the guidelines for appraisers to be presented. Radke asked Ryan Vincent, Owner of Vincent Evaluations, to address this. Vincent gave a brief overview of re-appraisals and ways to identify the appraisers working for the county. This includes magnets on cars, vests, ID badges, and red door hangers. It is expected for appraisers to park in non-obstructing areas and notify the owners when they are there. Appraisers will request bed and bathroom counts for accuracy. Vincent Valuations performs mass appraisals and not fee appraisals so they will not need to come in the house. If there is a "no trespassing" sign, appraisers are expected to knock on door, and leave a red door hanger if no one is home. Appraisers will take measurements and photos of properties. Vincent answered questions from the Board.

**7 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

7.1 Patricia Kolack: Spoke about laws regarding appraisers on property.

**8 CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Approval to add \$14,000 to PO #5 in FY24 for Sodium Hydroxide provided by Brenntag.

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 Approval of Budget Amendment to transfer revenue funds to

expenditure in Federal Seizure account.

- 8.3 Approval of Sole Source vendor for Graykey for Investigations for extraction technologies.
- 8.4 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment transferring Juvenile Crime Prevention Council funds between Programs
- 8.5 Request Approval of FY 2024-2025 Pender County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council's Annual Plan, Funding Recommendation and Board Members
- 8.6 Motor Vehicle Releases and Refunds
- 8.7 Refund/Release Requests for items meeting NC G.S 105-381
- 8.8 Approval of a Purchase Order to SHI for Microsoft Enterprise Licensing Annual Renewal in the amount of \$198,743.08.
- 8.10 Approval of a Purchase Order to SHI for EndPoint Cybersecurity System in the amount of \$96,442.98.
- 8.11 Amendment to BOCC Regular Meeting Schedule
- 8.12 Approval of a Budget Amendment to Increase Health Department Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023-2024: \$50,000

**9 APPROVALS AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 9.1 Resolution Proclaiming April 2024 Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Pender County

Lauren Gish from Coastal Horizons Rape Crisis Center read off the resolution proclaiming April 2024 Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Pender County. Gish provided statistics about assault among the population. She thanked the Board for their support.

Moved by Jerry Groves, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to Approve the Resolution Proclaiming April 2024 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Pender County*

	<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 Request for Purchase Order Increase to Pasofino Trainers Worldwide, Inc. for Tire Recycling & Disposal Services for FY24 by \$60,000

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. Pender County signed with Central Carolina Holding for tire recycling and disposal. Central Carolina Holding is increasing their prices. Pacifina offers the same services for less. Pender County legal team stated there is room in the Central Carolina contract so we can use both companies. Colon is asking the Board to extend the PO. Commissioner Newton asked for clarification on using two companies. Colon responded that Pender County already uses Pacifina as a backup, Utilities just needs to extend the purchase order.

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

*Motion to Approve the Request for Purchase Order Increase to Pasofino Trainers Worldwide, Inc. for Tire Recycling & Disposal Services for FY24 by \$60,000*

	<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 for Batson Road waterline extension Recommendation of Award to Herring-Rivenbark

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. Utilites put the Batson Road Waterline Extension out for bid. Herring-Rivenbark was the cheapest response. The expected budget for this project is \$215,542.00. Colon answered questions from the Board.

Moved by Fred McCoy, seconded by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee

*Motion to Approve Batson Road waterline extension Recommendation of Award to Herring-Rivenbark*

	<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.

9.4 Approval for US421 Pump Station, Force Main, and Water Main Recommendation of Award to State Utility Contractors, Inc.

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. Utilities put the US421 Pump Station, Force Main, and Water Main out for bid. State Utility Contractors, Inc. was the cheapest bidder. Colon answered questions from the Board.

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

*Motion to Approve US421 Pump Station, Force Main, and Water Main Recommendation of Award to State Utility Contractors, Inc.*

	<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.

9.5 Approval of Amendment to Eastern Pender Service Area Water System Improvements Project to prepare new NCDEQ funding applications for the Columbia/Union Township Water System Improvements

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. Colon stated he is asking the Board to approve this item so CDM Smith can apply for grants for the project. Colon answered questions from the Board.

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

*Motion to Approve Amendment to Eastern Pender Service Area Water*

*System Improvements Project to prepare new NCDEQ funding applications for the Columbia/Union Township Water System Improvements*

	<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.

9.6 Approval of Purchase Order to Timmons Group to Award the Contract for Wastewater Management Plan Project

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. Colon explained there is money already in the budget for this project. This was the only bid response received.

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Jerry Groves

*Motion to Approve Purchase Order to Timmons Group to Award the Contract for Wastewater Management Plan Project*

	<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**

10.1 Discussion on Amending the Order of Business for Public Comment

The Board discussed moving public comment back to the beginning of the meetings, so citizens did not have to wait for the entire meeting to speak. Commissioner Groves and Chairman George stated their

support for this. Commissioner Newton voiced concerns with moving it back. Commissioner McCoy voiced concerns with meetings not moving along. Commissioner Groves reiterated his desires to let citizens speak first. The Board decided to take a vote at the next meeting.

**11 APPOINTMENTS**

**11.1 Reappointments for the Board of Equalization and Review**

Lexi Stanfield, Clerk to the Board, presented the five applicants. Stanfield reviewed their history with the Board and gave a recommendation for chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review. The Board discussed the applicants among themselves. The terms for each applicant begin on January 1, 2024, and expire on December 31, 2024.

Moved by Jerry Groves, seconded by Fred McCoy

*Motion to Approve Applicants to the Board of E&R, and Appoint Larry Bolick as Chairman.*

	<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.

**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**

**17.1 2023 Annual Communicable Disease Report**

Item was moved to the April 15th meeting.

17.2 2023 Child Fatality Report

Item was moved to the April 15th meeting.

**18 SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD**

18.1 Approval of a Budget Amendment to Increase DSS Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023-2024: \$255,000

Wes Stewart, DSS Director, presented the item to the Board. Stewart explained there are more kids to care for as well as Kinship Fares, which requires more money in the foster care line in the budget. The kinship Fares are all reimbursable with a 50% minimum guaranteed.

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

*Motion to Approve Budget Amendment to Increase DSS Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023-2024: \$255,000.*

	<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.

**19 PUBLIC COMMENT**

19.1 Char Robinson: Spoke to the Board about community development.

19.2 Debbie Crews: Spoke to the Board about permitting issues.

19.3 Debbie Walker: Spoke to the Board about county water in western Pender.

19.4 Patricia Kolack: Spoke to the Board about Opioid Settlement Funds and drug addiction in Pender County.

19.5 Ken Smith: Spoke to the Board about concerns with county parks.

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

- 20.1 Trey Thurman, County Attorney, requested the Board return to closed session for item six (6) personnel.
- 20.2 David Andrews, County Manager, reminded the Board of the Budget workshop on April 29th.
- 20.3 Commissioner Newton spoke about the reappraisals being done by Vincent Valuations and her experience with an appraiser recently.
- 20.4 Commissioner Groves spoke about the need for paint recycling bins at the Rocky Point Transfer Station.
- 20.5 Commissioner McCoy voiced his decision to agree to disagree with Commissioner Newton's past comments about historical statues.
- 20.6 Commissioner Hardee stated Pender Commence Park is almost full.
- 20.7 Chairman George spoke about the latest WMPO meeting and congestion caused by construction. He also addressed Ms. Kolack's comment about the Opioid Settlement Funds.

**21 ADJOURNMENT**

- 21.1 The Board returned to closed session at 6:15PM for item six (6) personnel.

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

*Motion to go into closed session pursuant to item six (6) personnel.*

	<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 from closed session at 6:32PM.

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

*Motion to return to open session.*

	<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.

21.3 The Board adjourned the meeting at 6:33PM.

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.