



MINUTES
Board of County Commissioners Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2024 4:00 PM
Pender County Public Assembly Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred McCoy
Jacqueline A. Newton
Jerry Groves
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee
B 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 Hardee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

Motion to Move item 8.1 to Approvals and Resolutions.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			

Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

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

Motion to Adopt the Agenda with the Amendment to 8.1.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

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

Moved by Jacqueline A. Newton, seconded by Fred McCoy

Motion to go into Closed Session for item one (1) Confidential Information, item three (3) Attorney Client Privilege, and item Six (6) six Personnel.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

Moved by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee, seconded by Fred McCoy

Motion to Return to Open Session.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

6 PUBLIC INFORMATION

6.1 Focus Broadband - Pender County Update

Kris Ward from Focus Broadband presented the Board an update on the county-wide internet connection. Currently, Focus Broadband is providing service to over 3,000 homes. The estimated completion date is the first quarter of the year in 2026. The NC Great Grant that was awarded to Focus Broadband will provide service to an additional 1,200 homes. Focus Broadband and Pender County price matched the grant in the amount of \$547,000. The Focus Broadband retail store in Burgaw opened on March 23rd, 2024. There will be a grand opening on May 30th.

6.2 Final PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the Final PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation presentation to the Board. Colon reviewed what PFAS are and the impacts they have on health and the environment. The federal government has finalized a National Drinking Water standard. Additionally, the EPA has also issued national regulatory limits for drinking water. The final ruling is expected to reduce exposure to 100,000 people. the maximum contamination level for PFOA and PFOS is 4.0 parts per trillion. PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA maximum contamination level is 10 parts per trillion. Colon reported that with the water treatment plant in Pender County, the contamination level is much lower than the maximum contamination level.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT

8 CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Approval of a Budget Amendment to Budget Foster Children Donation Monies Received: \$5,255

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

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

- 8.2 April 2, 2024, BOCC Meeting Minutes
- 8.3 April 15, 2024, BOCC Meeting Minutes
- 8.4 April 19, 2024, BOCC Special Meeting Minutes
- 8.5 April 23, 2024, Joint Meeting Minutes
- 8.6 Motor Vehicle Releases and Refunds
- 8.7 Refund/Release Requests for items meeting NC G.S 105-381
- 8.8 Approval of BOA for Transfer of Grant Revenue Budget Between Line Items
- 8.9 Approval of Contract for Arbitrage Tracking of Future Debt Issuances
- 8.10 Approval of BOA for June County Manager Contracts
- 8.11 Approval of a BOA for TDA Promotions
- 8.12 Approval of Purchase Order to SHI International for Replacement Firewall Hardware, Support & Maintenance in the amount of \$47,081.09.
- 8.13 Resolution Authorizing the Donation of Viper Tower to State of NC

9 APPROVALS AND RESOLUTIONS

- 9.1 Approval of BOA & PO for countywide radio project in the amount of \$1,456,427.15

Sarah Fulton, Assistant to the County Manager, presented the item. Fulton began her presentation by reviewing the purpose of the project. It was reported that by June 2025, some of the radios in Pender County will be inoperable, leaving departments without necessary equipment. Fulton went over the process used when deciding which radios to

replace. She discussed the benefits of buying the radios in bulk. Fulton gave a brief overview breaking down the cost, quantity, and payments by department. Fulton answered questions from the Board.

9.2 Approval to adopt a FEMA Buyout Program policy

Corey Romero, NCACC Strategic Project Coordinator, gave a brief overview of the FEMA Buyout Program Policy. Romero stated Pender County has acquired over 140 properties through the policy since the 1990s. Challenges with the current procedures was discussed. These challenges include inefficient use of resources, lack of maintenance, other. Romero covered how the new policy would better benefit the county, the objectives, and the multiple use requirements.

Moved by Fred McCoy, seconded by Jerry Groves

Motion to Adopt the FEMA Buyout Program Policy.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton		x		
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee		x		
B George	x			
	3	2	0	0

CARRIED.

9.3 Approval of BOA & PO Increase to Bordeaux Construction for BOE Request Regarding New K-8 School Bond Project

Meg Blue, Finance Director, presented the item. Currently, Pender County is cash flowing \$5million for the design phase of the project. Pender County Schools is asking for Pender County to cash flow an additional \$17million due to a tight timeline. Pender County would be paid back by the school bonds. There would be a temporary impact on the general fund.

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

Motion to Approve the BOA and PI Increase to Bordeaux Construction for BOE Request.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			

Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

- 9.4 Approval of Purchase Order and Budget Amendment for Mobile Communications of America in the amount of \$38,580.91 for tower repairs.

Andy Devane and Sheriff Cutler presented the item together. Inspections were done on the 911 Center radio tower. Tower was damaged due to regular wear and tear. The vendor hired needs to outsource some of the work due to staffing issues. This has raised the price from \$38,580.91 to \$44,560.91.

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

Motion to Approve the PO and BOA for Mobile Communications of America.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

10 DISCUSSION

11 APPOINTMENTS

- 11.1 Appointment to the Advisory Board of Health

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

Motion to Table Item.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

12 MAPLE HILL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

- 12.1 Approval for Purchase Order for Maple Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant Office Building Construction to Clydesdale Project Handlers Inc. for \$123,162.82

Anthony Colon, Utilities Director, presented the item. A mobile home was approved for purchase to be the new office building for the Maple Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant however, it was not ADA compliant. Colon shared pictures of the current "office" and rent-a-john used by staff at the treatment plant. Colon asked the Board to approve a purchase order for a new office building that will include a bathroom, lounge, office, and kitchen. The construction team awarded the PO is Clydesdale Project Handlers, Inc. This PO would come out of the enterprise fund and is in the budget.

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

Motion to Approve Purchase Order for Maple Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant Office Building Construction to Clydesdale Project Handlers Inc.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			
	5	0	0	0

CARRIED.

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

- 19.1 Trey Thurman, County, Attorney, shared Judge Jones denied the motion by Donald Sullivan in his case against the County.
- 19.2 David Andrews, County Manager, reminded the Board of the upcoming Budget Work Session on May 9th at 4PM.
- 19.3 Allen Vann, Assistant County Manager, praised Pam Brame, Pender County Utilities, Brandi Cobb, Anthony Colon, and other staff members for the hard work for recent events.
- 19.4 Commissioner McCoy stated he attended SpringFest over the weekend and enjoy himself.
- 19.5 Commissioner Newton thanked the Board for excusing her at the last regular board meeting.
- 19.6 Chairman George thanked Brandi Cobb and Pender Utilities staff for the hard work and effort they put into the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Scotts Hill.

20 ADJOURNMENT

20.1 The meeting adjourned at 6:01PM.

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

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting.

	For	Against	Abstained	Absent
Fred McCoy	x			
Jacqueline A. Newton	x			
Jerry Groves	x			
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee	x			
B George	x			

	5	0	0	0
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CARRIED.