

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
May 4, 2020 - 9:00 AM  
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice Womack Building Columbus, NC  
Columbus, NC  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Yoder, Vice-Chairman Melton, Commissioner Beiler, Commissioner Gasperson, and Commissioner Moore. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board High, media, and citizens.

1. Call to Order - Chairman Yoder.

Chairman Yoder stated Commissioner's Beiler and Moore, and Attorney Berg, as well as media and citizens are participating in the meeting remotely. He reminded everyone to keep their microphone muted unless speaking, and when making a vote to verbally state their vote for those listening.

2. Invocation - Commissioner Gasperson.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Vice-Chairman Melton.

4. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Yoder requested adding item 6C. to the Agenda - Amend Meeting Schedule and Budget Calendar.

A. Vice-Chairman Melton moved to approve agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Citizen Comment(s)

There were no citizen comments.

6. Agenda Item(s)

A. Presentation of FY 2020/21 Balanced Budget.

County Manager Pittman presented the balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. He read the first two paragraphs of his budget message:

" I hereby submit the following recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$33,274,901.00. The budget is balanced in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The recommended tax rate for the 20-21 fiscal year is .5494. This year's budget does not include any tax increase and does not use fund balance appropriation to balance the budget.

This is a year of budgeting like none other I have experienced as a Manager. Due to the Covid-19 shutdown, we know that there will be economic impacts to businesses and residents next fiscal year. Those impacts will directly affect our budget in declining sales tax revenues and our property tax collection percentage could also be reduced. These are the known issues that we are facing now and there are numerous unknowns that we will be realizing after the crisis is over."

- B. Schedule Public Hearing to receive citizen comment on the FY 2020/21 Budget on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7:00pm in the R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice in the Womack Building located in Columbus, NC.

Commissioner Moore moved to schedule the public hearing as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Melton and the motion carried unanimously.

- C. Amend Meeting Schedule and Budget Calendar.

Chairman Yoder requested changing the budget work session scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020 at 1:00 pm to Monday, May 11, 2020 at 9:00 am. He also requested amending the regular meeting schedule to add back the June 15, 2020 regular Board of Commissioners meeting.

Vice-Chairman Melton moved to amend the budget calendar as requested, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Melton moved to approve the regular meeting schedule as requested, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.

## 7. Commissioner Comment(s)

Commissioner Beiler said it was a productive meeting, and that he is thankful for the leadership in budgeting. He is confident we will get through this, and we will not only survive, but thrive.

Commissioner Gasperson appreciated the County Manager and Finance Department making the budget process as smooth as possible. He said with all the uncertainty, it appears the budget will be non-controversial.

Commissioner Moore said he appreciates all the hard work put in for the budget, and asked when the County offices would be re-open to the public. Manager Pittman said Polk County offices will be open tomorrow, May 5, 2020.

Vice-Chairman Melton agreed with everything said, and appreciates all the hard

work put into the budget process.

Chairman Yoder said he wanted everyone to know when he comments on social media, that is his opinion, and would never want to offend anyone. He is assured everyone is working hard, and he will always err on the side of the citizens.

8. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Melton moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

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Ange High  
Clerk to the Board

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Myron Yoder  
Chairman