

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR ALAMANCE
COUNTY
HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020**

Call to Order - Chair Galey

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Bill Lashley	Commissioner	Present	
Amy Scott Galey	Chair	Present	
Steve Carter	Vice Chairman	Present	
Eddie Boswell	Commissioner	Present	
Tim D. Sutton	Commissioner	Absent	

Invocation - Chair Galey

Public Speakers

(Citizens may address the Board for no more than 3 minutes per speaker on topics which are related to this meeting agenda.)

Commissioners' Responses

No public speakers, so no Commissioners' responses.

Approval of the Agenda

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Carter, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

Consent Agenda

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Steve Carter, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

Appointments/Reappointments

Adult Care Home CAC- Kathleen DeVore, Sylvain Johnson & David Woody

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council- Larry D Simpson, Jr & Valerie Chaffin

Recreation and Park Commission- Bhavna Hilligrass & Kelly May

Tax Refunds and Releases

Approval of tax refunds and releases. A copy of the refunds are set forth hereafter.

Approval to Accept Late File Property Tax Exemption Forms - Tax Department

Approval of late property tax exemption and exclusion application for Crosslink Community Church.

Approval of Minutes

Alamance County Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Nov 18, 2019 7:00 PM

Presentations/Other Business

2821 : Tax Lien Advertisement - Jeremy Akins, Tax Administrator

Jeremy Akins, Tax Administrator, spoke that it was time for the annual advertisement for tax liens. He commented that the N.C.G.S. 105-369A required tax collectors to report to the County Commissioners on any unpaid taxes on real property that liens had formed on that real property. The board, then charged the tax administrator to go forward and advertise at least once in a newspaper that had general circulation within the county. Mr. Akins stressed that the cost of the advertisement would be borne by the person they were advertising. The people that had paid on time does not pick up the tab to advertise someone else's account. The \$5 fee is added to that delinquent account to cover that cost. As of January, 31, the total amount of liens against real property for the current year taxes, was \$4,644,901.16. He found it interesting to look at where it stood today. Mr. Akins announced that as close of business today, it was down to \$3,842,670.52 and that payments were continually and steadily coming in. He continued that at the time delinquency had began, they had about 5900 parcels scheduled for advertisement. Mr. Akins mentioned that they closed out last year with about 4200 parcels. He said with another quarter to go, he expected maybe another 30% to pay. He explained if someone paid in the month of February, they guaranteed them that would not be advertised. As they got into March, there would come a point when they would stop in order to send the file off to the newspaper. Mr. Akins recommended advertising on or about March 19, 2020. He asked the Board to approve the lean advertisement at a cost of \$5 per parcel.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Steve Carter, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

2820 : Requesting approval for Fire Insurance Adjustment - John Payne, County Fire Marshal

John Payne, Fire Marshal, said he would like to reiterate what Chair Galey said about the family of one of our own employees who recently lost a loved one. He said it was pretty horrific not only for the firemen on the scene but also the paramedics, the Sheriff's deputies, and other officers. He asked that everyone please remember them as they go forward. Mr. Payne continued that he had received another request for an adjustment to the fire district lines or insurance district lines. He explained that Eli Whitney had built a sub-station during the early 1980s on Hwy 87 South. The district lines or insurance lines were never adjusted. He was contacted back in the middle of the summer from a gentleman whose insurance had went up 54% after his insurance company found out that he actually lived in another district. He thought he lived in Eli Whitney but actually lived in Snow Camp's district and now he was outside the 5-mile district. Mr. Payne provided a map and noted that it was kind of hard to see but coming down from the top of the map, Eli Whitney can cover both sides of this road. The district is in Snow Camp's district, but Eli Whitney has agreed to take it over and adjust the insurance district maps for those people so they can see some benefits and savings on their insurance if approved by the Board. If approved by the Board, it would go to the state, he spoke with Vernon Ward again at the state who had assured him that it should be no problem. Commissioner Boswell

clarified that Snow Camp did not have any issues with this. Mr. Payne responded that they did this last month with Jordan Meadows and that both fire departments had agreed. Snow Camp said they could not give up the tax money for doing this so it had to be done legally by the state and processed by the insurance district adjustment. He noted that Snow Camp would still receive the tax money. Eli Whitney had graciously agreed to cover this in order to let the savings benefit the homeowner.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Carter, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

Budget Amendments

Budget Amendment- Recreation and Parks

Brian Baker, Director of Alamance Parks presented a budget amendment in the amount of \$63,142.67 from his department's performance management funds. He explained that he was just moving those funds from their performance management savings account. Mr. Baker said they are trying to finish the Equestrian Center at Cedarock Park . This was the last bit of money that they needed to be able to construct a facility there for public horse rides. Their hope is to find a third party vendor to come in and provide the horses.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Eddie Boswell, Commissioner
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

Budget Amendment - Recreation & Parks

Mr. Baker presented another budget amendment in the amount of \$69,746.80 from a Hazard Mitigation Grant through FEMA. He said it was not a grant that he traditionally presented and it was more of a reimbursement for the damages that the park received due to Hurricane Florence. Mr. Baker indicated that some of the repairs that were done made ourselves in house by his department and they had already been reimbursed for those repairs. He commented that these funds will be used for the repairs that have not been done yet, either because they have not had the time or mostly because it was things they could not do. Mr. Baker commented that these funds would allow them to go and get a contractor to complete this work.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Eddie Boswell, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Bill Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Bill Lashley, Amy Scott Galey, Steve Carter, Eddie Boswell

Public Speakers

(Citizens may address the Board for no more than 3 minutes per speaker on issues of public interest.)

Commissioners' Responses

No public speakers, so no Commissioners' responses.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Hagood had two items for the Board to consider and think about, the first item was the detention officer supplement. He reminded the Board that some time back that his department had worked with the county legal department and the HR department to put together a proposed local bill. That local bill had gone to the state legislature to consider giving the county the authority to be able to offer detention officers a separate allowance. One that was very similar to the same law that sworn officers were able to benefit from. County Manager Hagood advised that effort had stalled and they were not able to get a lot of traction in Raleigh. It was sent to a committee and has been in that committee ever since. So his office, along with legal and HR departments had worked together to try to find another way to offer this option for detention officers. He believed they have found a way to do that by looking at calling the new offering the Alamance County Detention Officer's Social Security bridge allowance. County Manager Hagood described that it would be very similar to the original plan that was originally put together and sent to Raleigh. They have worked on finalizing the details of this plan for detention officers, and had provided the details that they came up with to a personnel attorney, someone that specialized in that one tax. He spoke that they wanted to make sure that were not doing anything to put the detention officers in some strange tax situation and also to make sure the terms of it were acceptable from a personnel law standpoint. He believed that it would all be found to be acceptable and hoped to bring this new benefit for detention officers in March for their review and for approval.

The second item that County Manager Hagood presented was a copy of the budget calendar for the fiscal year 20-21 budget. He mentioned that the main points to know was that the budget retreat was planned for April 6th during the existing regular meeting. Presentations will be given by County Manager Hagood, Sheriff's Office and some of the very large departments. He noted that all department heads would be present and that the Board will receive their information and will be able to ask questions. County Manager Hagood continued that on April 20th, they plan to have Alamance-Burlington School System (ABSS) and Alamance Community College (ACC) come that evening and present their own budget requests which will provide an opportunity to talk to them and ask them questions about their proposed budgets. He planned to present his manager's recommended budget on May 4th and scheduling the proposed budget public hearing for May 18th followed by the budget adoption on June 15th.

Alamance County Fiscal Reports January 2020**Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Lashley spoke that he had received lots of phone calls and comments from people that owned bars throughout the County. Their biggest complaint or their concern was that they could not supply their customers liquor by the drink. They had people come by their bars that wanted a mixed drink. They wanted to be able to sell liquor by the drink to their customers. If people wanted a mixed drink, they had to drive all the way to town. Customers were concerned about getting caught driving while impaired. He advised that he would like to put liquor by the drink on their agenda for one of the March meetings so they could discuss it further.

Commissioner Boswell asked would that have to be voted on by the public. County Attorney Albright said the Board would have to determine whether they wanted to go that route. If they did, then they would call for an election like a referendum under Chapter 163. He explained that the county does not quite meet the requirement under the statute for the county to do this by a resolution. He described that they take the three largest cities in the county where mixed beverages are already sold which would be Burlington, Mebane, and Graham. They take that population and it had to be more than two thirds of the total county population. County Attorney Albright said that it barely missed it. He thought the county had 91,000 and it had to be 99, 000. Commissioner Lashley clarified that in order to do this, it had to be voted on. County Attorney Albright said it would have to go on a ballot and on that same vote there would have to be a vote to establish a county ABC Store in order to ship the alcohol throughout the county unless they worked up a deal with Burlington or Graham. He advised these were all the things they could discuss at the next meeting. Vice Chair Carter asked who operated the county ABC Stores currently or were they just in the municipalities and those revenues stayed with the cities. County Attorney Albright said he was correct that the ABC Stores were only in the cities and there were none in the county.

Chair Galey asked the county attorney to prepare a presentation for the next meeting with any language that would need to be approved for a ballot.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

CLERK TO THE BOARD