## CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS <u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>

### April 1, 2024 OTHERS PRESENT

Jeremiah Jefferies, Chair Finch Holt, Vice Chair Ethel Gwynn Rick McVey Frank Rose Tim Yarbrough

Scott Meszaros, County Manager Melissa Williamson, Deputy County Manager Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director Russell Johnston, County Attorney Carla Smith, Clerk to the Board

-----

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Caswell, North Carolina, met in a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Gunn Memorial Library.

## WELCOME:

Chairman Jefferies called the meeting to order, and welcomed everyone to the Caswell County Board of Commissioners meeting on April 1, 2024. Then all paused for a moment of Silent Prayer, and the Board of Commissioners and all the guest in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

### **RECOGNITIONS:**

There were no recognitions.

### AGENDA:

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Gwynn and seconded by Commissioner Yarbrough and **carried unanimously** to approve the agenda. (Ayes: Commissioners Holt, Gwynn, Yarbrough, Rose, McVey, and Jefferies)

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. March 11, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes
- b. March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
- c. March 19, 2024 Emergency Meeting Minutes

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey and **carried unanimously** to approve the consent agenda. (Ayes: Commissioners Holt, Gwynn, Yarbrough, Rose, McVey, and Jefferies)

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

# **ACTION ITEMS:**

# **BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:**

**Caswell Agricultural Advisory Committee:** This Board has one vacancy, and we received 1 application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rose and seconded by Commissioner McVey and carried unanimously to appoint Stephen Harris to the Caswell Agricultural Advisory Committee. (Ayes: Commissioners Holt, McVey, Rose, Gwynn, Yarbrough, and Jefferies)

# FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT # 15:

Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, said Commissioners we have several amendments on the agenda this evening. The first one is budget amendment number 15: the 911 communication radio equipment grant. At the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Kenneth Everett received approval from the Board to accept a grant awarded to Caswell County Emergency Communications in the amount of \$24,992.67 for the procurement of portable radios. So this is the budget amendment to go along with that so that we can go ahead and allocate those funds. The budget impact is \$24,992.67. You have a copy of the amendment and a copy of the grant that was approved at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Chairman Jefferies said you heard the justification. Can I get a motion to approve it?

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey to approve the Budget Amendment #15.

Chairman Jefferies asked are there any questions?

Commissioner Yarbrough said this is more or less a wash. We're going spend the money and get reimbursed. Finance Director Hammock said yes sir.

Chairman Jefferies said any more questions?

Vice Chairman Holt said what did we vote on last time? I thought we already voted on it. Finance Director Hammock said you voted to accept the grant, and now we're allocating it. Vice Chairman Holt said okay.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey and **carried unanimously** to approve the Budget Amendment #15. (Ayes: Commissioners Rose, Yarbrough, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

## FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT # 16:

Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, said we have budget amendment number 16, which is DSS. This is a budget amendment to allocate changes made by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services as authorized by the state funding, and the budget will increase by \$35,991.77. Chairman Jefferies said by how much? Finance Director Hammock said \$35,991.77.

April 1, 2024

The state funding is for these particular programs: water assistance and the supplements for LIEAP. The state funding has increased.

Chairman Jefferies said you have you heard the justification; what's the pleasure of the Board?

Commissioner Yarbrough said can I ask a question first Mr. Chairman? Chairman Jefferies said yes sir. Commissioner Yarbrough said is this just an approval to receive state funds? Finance Director Hammock said yes.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner Gwynn and **carried unanimously** to approve the Budget Amendment #16. (Ayes: Commissioners Rose, Yarbrough, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

# FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT # 17:

Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, said next is budget amendment number 17, the elevator repair. On March 18<sup>th</sup> the Board of Commissioners accepted and approved a proposal from TKE Elevator Corporation in the amount of \$148,992.54 to repair the elevator at the Caswell County Courthouse. The anticipated date to complete the repairs will be in fiscal year 2025. However, this budget amendment will need to be allocated in fiscal year 2024 to begin the process of ordering needed parts for the repairers. Any funds not used for this project by the end of fiscal year 2024 will roll to fiscal year 2025.

Chairman Jefferies said what's the pleasure of the Board?

Commissioner Yarbrough said well we said we were going have to do it. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey to approve the Budget Amendment #17.

Chairman Jefferies said are there any questions?

Commissioner Rose said you said this is going to come out of next year's? Finance Director Hammock said it's going to be allocated in this year's budget, but the repairs won't be completed until next year's budget. So what we allocate now, they'll start ordering, and we'll start paying for things. It won't be completed till next year so the remaining balance will have to come out of next year's budget, but what we'll do is just roll that over into next year's budget.

Chairman Jefferies asked if there were any more questions? Hearing none the voted.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey and **carried unanimously** to approve the Budget Amendment #17. (Ayes: Commissioners Rose, Yarbrough, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

# FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT # 18:

Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, said the next one is budget amendment number 18 for Senior Services. The background information is there's two items on this budget amendment. They receive two different grants. The first item is the Senior Center Service Center for Disability and Aging Policy or CDAP - State Health Insurance Assistance Program Grant, which is also called the SHIIP Grant. This is a grant received from the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living. This is a reimbursement grant with no County match. The term of this grant is for the remainder of fiscal year 2024, and funds are to help the Senior Center provide counseling and education to Medicare recipients through collaborations with partners such as the Health Department, Caswell Family Medical Center, Caswell Parks and Rec., Outreach Ministry, and the local food banks. The second item is the Center for Integrated Programs or CIP, and that is the Senior Medicare Patrol Project Grant. This grant is received from the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living. This is also a reimbursement grant with no County match. The term of the grant is the remainder fiscal year 2024, and the funds are to be used to promote and host a shred-a-thon instead of a Shed-a-thon. That's supposed to be shred-a-thon in conjunction with Solid Waste. So the total budget increase for both grants together is \$10,566. It is a reimbursement grant, but there is no County match for it.

Chairman Jefferies said Rick, you already raised up when she said no County match. Finance Director Hammock said I made sure I put that in there. Chairman Jefferies said is that your motion, and Commissioner McVey said yes.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner McVey and seconded by Commissioner Holt and **carried unanimously** to approve the Budget Amendment #18. (Ayes: Commissioners Rose, Yarbrough, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

## FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT # 19:

Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, said one more and then I'll be done. Budget amendment number 19 is the TDA, Tourism Development Authority. In the original fiscal year 2024 budget ordinance estimated revenue for the TDA was \$8,000. After reviewing revenues received thus far for fiscal year 2024 and considering the increase in an additional 3% occupancy tax collection from the Town of Yanceyville along with the existing 3% occupancy tax collection for the County, revenue estimates have increased to \$40,000 for fiscal year 2024. This budget amendment will reflect the anticipated increase in occupancy tax collections going forward. So the budget increase is 32,000 in revenues to make a revised budget of \$40,000 in revenues. That is what we anticipate.

Chairman Jefferies said this is from delinquent tax, right? Finance Director Hammock said it comes from occupancy tax like Airbnbs, Vrbo, and the hotel. This is what we collect. Chairman Jefferies said you heard the motion. Vice Chairman Holt said our motion is to accept the money. Finance Director Hammock said yes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gwynn to accept this \$40,000 in occupancy tax.

Finance Director Hammock said we only estimated that they would collect \$8,000. But in reality, they've already collected almost \$30,000, and we are going to start collecting an additional 3% from the hotel, which is going to be a town collection. All of that's being deferred to the TDA.

Vice Chairman Holt asked where's this money go? Finance Director Hammock said it goes into their fund. It is not County money. It's the TDA fund for the Tourism and Development Association.

Commissioner Yarbrough said how are we so far off on what we estimated and what it actually is? Finance Director Hammock said because the Tourism and Development... My understanding is prior to me being in this position they never really had a Tourism and Development Association that was active. So we have been collecting this occupancy tax and they have right much in that line item. Now they have an active TDA. They are functioning, they are promoting, and they are doing everything that they are supposed to be doing. So now they're needing allocations. Previously we only allocated \$8,000 as estimated revenue for them, but in actuality every year they've been collecting more than that.

Vice Chairman Holt said so the money goes actually into our piggy bank, and you' got to give back to them. Finance Director Hammock said yes. Vice Chairman Holt said now I understand.

Chairman Jefferies said I think we have only been collecting this money or about 10 years or less. Finance Director Hammock and Commissioner McVey said it hasn't been.

Commissioner Yarbrough said has it been a thing of just collections weren't pursued in the past, and Finance Director Hammock said yes. Commissioner Yarbrough said okay. I thought that was the way it sounded. Finance Director hammock said yes sir. That's correct. So now they are active, and they are working. I don't know if you've seen the website. They've got the visit Caswell website. It's really nice and have a lot of different areas where they're promoting Caswell County.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Gwynn and seconded by Commissioner McVey and **carried unanimously** to accept the \$40,000 in occupancy tax. (Ayes: Commissioners Rose, Yarbrough, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATES:**

County Manager Scott Meszaros said so at the annual inspection down at the lake, they had a problem passing the dock. So we had a contractor look at that. They're actively replacing all the top boards and some of the rotted boards in order to have a fishing derby. So they started that this morning, and they've already had some citizens complaining because they can't fish. They're actively trying to get that work fixed before the season comes for fishing, but it was a failed inspection. They were going to make us gut it all out, but they're just topping the top boards.

The Co-Square project, Enviroclean should be finished with the spraying, the cleanup, and the floors by midweek. We should have painters in there sometime later this week so that's getting

closer on the back side. The front part of the building at the entrance is going to take some time. So that that project's actually moving along quite well.

You met Jeremy at the last meeting, the District Engineer from DOT. He's actually pushing some ideas about rumble strips, flashing red stop signs, and looking at our question about putting up some type of pillars or barriers. That has to be in the right way so they have to approve that. So that's kind of in their court, but we're trying to get that looked at so that we can get a good solution and answer for you on that.

One of the things we wanted to bring up is the Zitel contract with the broadband. So they did withdraw their contract in all eight counties. I believe it's eight counties. So NCDIT has been working with all those counties and partners to first of all end their contract. So we had to terminate that. They did withdraw the 60-day notification. So they have a 60-day notice where they can have public comments, but they withdrew from having to do that. So NCDIT is working to figure out how they either reestablish contracts or go back. They don't just award it to the next bidder. So that process is pretty cumbersome, but it goes through the state. So we've been in communication with them pretty heavily trying to look at all the possibilities for our County.

Vice Chairman Holt said Zitel, that was the one that was in Virginia that we were the southern tip of their service area. County Manager Meszaros said yes sir. So they formally withdrew. There was a lot of unanswered questions, and people were kind of wondering. Officially the secretary reached out to me and some of our other counties, and they did withdraw. It is formal. So they're going back and trying to reestablish how they get that timeline moved so they don't lose a lot of track in time. At this point, I think it's really unknown which company's, we have several companies in the county, which company's going to pick that up and be awarded those contracts for working on that. Some of the staff has really been helping me with navigating some of those issues, but I think the key is when citizens call, we refer them to NCDIT. Jeff and his staff are really good about looking it up and trying to help them understand how to navigate it. It is a delay, but before we can get into the CAB Grant, we have to get through this first base. So it's really important to get that accomplished in a timely fashion. That's all we have.

Commissioner Rose said one question I have Mr. Manager. You said the dock didn't pass, but what was the amount to fix that. County Manager Meszaros said so it's under \$5,000. So we do have it in maintenance budget. We're working with Charlie, I don't like to use people's first names only, but he does have some wiggle room in his budget. Finance has looked at that. It's really rotted and bad. It's a small project so that hadn't been to the Board. Commissioner McVey said Mr. Rose, don't hold me to it, but I think it's somewhere around \$3,500 according to what I was told.

Commissioner Yarbrough said on Co-Square, the back section the way you're sounding is going to be pretty much repaired in the very near future. Is any of that building going to be...Are we going to be able to open up part of the building, or we got to wait for it all to be finished? County Manager Meszaros said our intended plan is to try to see if they could put up a temporary

April 1, 2024

wall in front of the bathrooms. That way in the back there's two access entrances. That way if they get it painted and get it clean, we might be able to get the tenants back in there so they can still access the facility. But then the front part would be a construction zone. Commissioner Yarbrough said hopefully that back section can be reopened. Okay. County Manager Meszaros said I don't want to give you a timeline because then the timeline might not fall through, but in a couple of weeks so to speak.

# **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Rose**: One other thing I had Mr. Manager. Where do we stand on the audio system upgrade for the Old Courthouse? County Manager Meszaros said I haven't gotten an update from I.T. Jason, they executed the contract actually the night that it was approved. So they're working on procuring the equipment. I don't have an ETA, but I'll find out and send out an email to update you on that.

**Commissioner Gwynn:** I would like to report that I've been doing some volunteer work at the Parish. They have really written a lot of grants, and they have completely remodeled it. It really looks like store. They had written several grants so they were able to get a freezer. A bigger freezer for the meats they get I guess. Also the store has been enlarged for clothing and that type of thing. They were switching out the winter clothes this week.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

• April 15, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting at 6:30 pm at the Gunn Memorial Library

## **CLOSED SESSION:**

A motion was made at 6:52 pm by Commissioner Yarbrough and seconded by Commissioner McVey and **carried unanimously** to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, which is hereby acknowledged NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4). (Ayes: Commissioners Yarbrough, Rose, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

A **motion** was made at 7:52 pm by Commissioner McVey and seconded by Commissioner Holt and **carried unanimously** to adjourn the meeting. (Ayes: Commissioners Yarbrough, Rose, Holt, Gwynn, McVey, and Jefferies)

Carla R. Smith Clerk to the Board Jeremiah Jefferies Chairman

#### CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 15 April 1, 2024 Board Meeting

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that the following amendment is hereby made to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### Item I: Reimbursement Grant for 911 Communications Radio Equipment

**JUSTIFICATION:** At the March 18, 2024 Commissioner's Meeting, 911 Director, Kenneth Everett, received approval from the Board to accept a grant awarded to Caswell County Emergency Communications in the amount of \$24,992.67 for the procurement of portable radios. This is a reimbursement grant that will run for 15 months. It will be considered a multi-year grant as it will end on June 30, 2025. This equipment will serve as a crucial backup radio system in the event of primary radio equipment failure and facilitate interoperability across the state.

REVENUES:		 Current udget		Increase Decrease)		4 Amended Budget
	911 COMM RADIO EQUIPMENT					
1004335 361100	GRANT	\$ <u> 2</u>	\$	<u>24,992.67</u>	<u>\$</u>	24,992.67
TOTAL REVENUES		\$ ÷	\$	24,992.67		
EXPENDITURES:						
	911 COMM RADIO EQUIPMENT					
1004335 569300 TOTAL EXPENDITURES	GRANT	\$ 2	\$ \$	<u>24,992.67</u> 24,992.67	\$	24,992.67

**NOTE:** This grant runs from effective date 3/18/2024 through June 30, 2025.

ATTEST:

S/Carla Smith Clerk to the Board S/Jeremiah Jefferies Chairman

April 1, 2024

Date

#### CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 16 April 1, 2024 Board Meeting

**BE** IT **ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that the following amendment is hereby made to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### Item I: Amend Section 6 of Adopted Budget Ordinance: Department of Social Services Subfund

**JUSTIFICATION:** To budget allocation changes by the NC Department of Health and Human Services as authorized by state funding authorization.

	-		FY24 Current Budget		Increase (Decrease)		FY24 Amended Budge	
REVENUES: State and Federal F	unding							
LIHWAP-Water Assistance	1305310	332120	\$	91.92	\$	1,712.85	\$	1,804.77
DRSAA-LIEAP Supplements	1305310	332125	\$		\$	<u>34,1 87.00</u>	\$	34,187.00
TOTAL REVENUES - State and F	ederal Fundin	g	\$	91.92	\$	35,899.85	\$	35,991.77
EXPENDITURES: Operations								
LIHWAP-Water Assistance	1305310	546506	\$	91.92	\$	1,712.85	\$	1,804.77
DRSAA-LIEAP Supplements TOTAL EXPENDITURES- Operation	1305310 ons	539955	\$\$	91.92	_\$	<u>34₋,187.00</u> 35,899.85	<u>\$</u> \$	34,187.00 35,991.77

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF CASWELL:

S/Carla Smith

Clerk to the Board April 1, 2024

Date

S/Jeremiah Jefferies

Chairman of the Board

#### CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 17 April 1, 2024 Board Meeting

**BE** IT **ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that the following amendment is hereby made to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### Item I: Budget allocation for Caswell County Courthouse elevator repair

**JUSTIFICATION:** On March 18, 2024 the Board of Commissioners accepted and approved a proposal from TKE (TK Elevator Corporation) in the amount of \$148,992.54 to repair the elevator at the Caswell County Courthouse. The anticipated date to complete the repairs will be in FY2025, however, this budget amendment will need to be allocated in FY2024 to begin the process of ordering needed parts for the repairs.

		FY24 Current Budget	Increase (Decrease)	F	Y24 Amended Budget
REVENUES: Appropriated Fund Balance	1000000 390000	\$ 2,305,480.00	\$ 148,992.54	\$	2,454,472.54
TOTAL REVENUES		\$ 2,305,480.00	\$ 148,992.54		
EXPENDITURES: Cap Out-Bldng/Structure/Improv TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1004260 558000	\$	\$ 148,992.54 \$ 148,992.54	\$	148,992.54

NOTE: Any funds not used for this project by the end of FY2024 will roll over to FY2025.

ATTEST:

S/Carla Smith	S/ Jeremiah Jefferies
Clerk to the Board	Chairman
April 1, 2024	
Date	

#### CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18 April 1, 2024 Board Meeting

**BE** IT **ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that the following amendment is hereby made to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### Item I: Senior Services: Center for Disability & Aging Policy (CDAP)-State Health Insurance Assistance Program

**JUSTIFICATION:** This is a grant received from the US Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Community Living. This is a Reimbursement Grant with no County match. The term of the grant is FY2024 and funds are to help the Senior Center provide counseling and education to Medicare recipients through collaborations with partners such as the Health Department, Caswell Family Medical Center, Caswell Parks & Recreation, Outreach Ministries, and Local Food Banks.

		FY24 Current Budget	Increase Decrease)	 Amended Budget
REVENUES:				
Senior Services SHIIP (Seniors' Health Insurance				
Information Program)	1005876 335101	\$	\$ 7,766.00	\$ 7,766.00
TOTAL REVENUES		\$	\$ 7,766.00	\$ 7,766.00
EXPENDITURES: Senior Services SHIIP				
Professional Services - Other	1005876 519900	\$	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Supplies - General	1005876 520000	\$	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Small Tools - Equipment	1005876 529500	\$	\$ 1,466.00	\$ 1,466.00
Travel - Subsistence	1005876 531200	\$	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Programming - Spec Events	1005876 530004	\$	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			\$ 7,766.00	\$ 7,766.00

Item II: Senior Services: Center for Integrated Programs (CIP)-Senior Medicare Patrol Project

**JUSTIFICATION:** This is a grant received from the US Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Community Living. This is a Reimbursement Grant with no County match. The term of this grant is FY2024 and funds are to be used to promote and host a Shred-A-Thon in conjunction with Solid Waste.

		 24 Current Budget	-	ncrease Decrease)	 4 Amended Budget
REVENUES: Senior Services SHIIP	1005876 335101	\$ 7,766.00	\$	2,800.00	\$ 10,566.00
TOTAL REVENUES			\$	2,800.00	
EXPENDITURES: Senior Services SHIIP					
Professional Services - Other	1005876 519900	\$ 1,500.00	\$	2,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Supplies - General	1005876 520000	\$ 2,000.00	\$	800.00	\$ 2,800.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			\$	2,800.00	

ATTEST:

s/Carla Smith	S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Clerk to the Board	Chairman
April 1, 2024	
Date	

#### CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 19 April 1, 2024 Board Meeting

**BE** IT **ORDAINED** by the Caswell County Board of Commissioners that the following amendment is hereby made to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### Item I: Caswell County Tourism & Development (TOA) increase budget lines

**JUSTIFICATION:** In the original FY 2024 Budget Ordinance, estimated revenue for the TDA was \$8,000.00. After reviewing revenues received thus far for FY24 and considering the increase of an additional 3% Occupancy Tax Collection from the Town of Yanceyville along with the existing 3% Occupancy Tax Collection for the County, revenue estimates have increased to \$40,000.00 for FY24. This budget amendment will reflect the anticipated increase in Occupancy Tax Collections going forward.

		 24 Current Budget	Increase Decrease)	FY2	4 Amended Budget
REVENUES: Occupancy Tax (TDA)	1704921331020	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$	40,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES		\$ 8,000.00	\$ 32,000.00		
EXPENDITURES: Occupancy Tax (TDA) TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1704921546200	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 32,000.00 32,000.00	\$	40,000.00

NOTE:

ATTEST:

S/Carla Smith	S/ Jeremiah Jefferies
Clerk to the Board	Chairman
April 1, 2024	
Date	