



**ONLOW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**  
**Monday, October 5, 2020**  
**Onslow County Government Center – Commissioners' Chambers**  
**234 NW Corridor Boulevard, Jacksonville**  
**6:00 PM**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Jack Bright

**INVOCATION** – Sharon Russell, County Manager will provide the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Sheri Slater, Assistant County Manager will lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT**

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

*We ask that all in attendance please set your cell phones to silent or vibrate mode. The Board offers the public one opportunity to speak during the meeting. Comments during the public comment period should be limited to five minutes and may be on any issue upon which the Board of Commissioners has control.*

*Citizen speakers will be acknowledged in the order in which they signed up to speak and will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual commissioner. Speakers will address the Board from the speaker's podium at the front of the room and will begin their remarks by stating their name and address. Discussions between Speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed. Public comment is not intended to require the Board to answer any impromptu questions. Speakers are expected to be civil in their language and presentation. Any comments where the primary purpose is to promote a business or candidacy shall not be allowed.*

*In accordance with the Board's adopted Rules of Procedure, Commissioners shall reserve responses, if any, for the Commissioner comment period on the agenda.*

**ITEM 1      ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chairman:      With no other items being considered separately, a motion to adopt the Meeting Agenda is in order.

**Specific Action Requested:** Adopt the Meeting Agenda.

## ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

*The Chairman will ask any Board Members with questions or concerns about any agenda item to identify the item, which will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately toward the end of the meeting. If an item is identified, no vote is necessary to move the item for separate consideration. The Chairman will call for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

*The Consent Agenda includes routine items that may be acted upon in a single vote. Any Commissioner may remove items from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and consideration later in the agenda.*

**A. Budget Amendments** – The following budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 are requested for your approval on October 5, 2020: B18-B23.

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request that the Board of Commissioners approve Budget Amendments B18-B23.

**B. Releases/Refunds and Tax Collectors Report for August**

#### **1. Releases and Refunds for August 2020**

- (A) Releases for Holly Ridge, North Topsail Beach, Richlands, Surf City, and Swansboro
- (B) Refunds

#### **2. Tax Collectors Report for August 2020**

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request that the Board of Commissioners consider the approval of Releases/Refunds, and Tax Collectors Report for August 2020.

**C. Approval of Proclamations**

Domestic Violence Awareness Month  
National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

**Specific Action Requested:** It is respectfully requested that the Board of Commissioners approve the listed proclamations.

**D. Approval of Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

September 14, 2020 BOC Special Meeting

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request approval of the listed meeting minutes.

**ITEM 3 PUBLIC COMMENT** - Citizens have an opportunity to address the Board for no more than five minutes per comment on any issue upon which the Board of Commissioners has control.

**ITEM 4 PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Proclamation** – Two proclamations have been prepared for presentation. Sharon Russell, County Manager, shall read the proclamations.

**i. Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

Representatives from Onslow Women’s Center will accept the proclamation. The Chairman has requested that Commissioner Tim Foster present the proclamation.

**ii. National Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

Representatives from Information Technology Services (ITS) department will accept the proclamation. The Chairman has requested that Commissioner Robin Knapp present the proclamation.

**B. 2020 Incidence and Trends**

The Onslow County Health Department is accredited through the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Board. As part of the agency's core functions and essential services, the local health department shall work with health care providers in the community to report reportable diseases and other health-related events and data. The health department is required to demonstrate that an annual report of the data is presented or distributed to the Board of Commissioners as the Board of Health. The report will include local disease incidence and trends information.

Krissy Hoover, Health Director, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** It is respectfully requested that the Board of Commissioners receive the presentation of the incidence and trends report for 2019/2020 to fulfill the Health Department's Accreditation requirements.

**ITEM 5 GENERAL ITEMS**

**A. Georgetown -Renaissance Community Association Lease with Option to Purchase**

In 2014, the Georgetown Renaissance Community Association (hereinafter "Association") entered into a 10-year ground lease with the County, intending to construct a building that would serve the citizens and promote tourism, economic development, and cultural heritage education, historic preservation, and related purposes. The Association’s members contend that construction plans have not been submitted because they have been unable to locate

investors willing to assist them in their efforts due to the ground lease's short nature. The Association believes that a longer lease (i.e., 30 years), with an option to purchase, will attract investors to its mission.

The proposed lease agreement would allow the Association to enter into a 30-year ground lease with the option to purchase the property for the property tax value at the time the option to purchase is exercised. The property consists of a 5.32-acre tract of land and is a portion of Parcel ID 040358. Currently, staff estimates that the tax value of the leased property would be \$399,000. The lease will automatically terminate if construction is not commenced within five years.

If the Resolution approving the Ground Lease with Option to Purchase is approved, the County will publish the contents of the resolution ten days prior to execution of the lease in accordance with law.

Sharon Russell, County Manager, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request the Board of Commissioners consider adopting the Resolution to Approve the Ground Lease with Option to Purchase and authorize the Chairman to sign the associated documents 10 days after the Resolution's contents have been published in accordance with G.S. 160A-279 and 160A-267.

#### **B. Consideration of Contract for County Attorney**

North Carolina General Statute 153A-114 requires the County to appoint a County Attorney to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners and to be our legal advisor in all matters. Our current contract with attorney Brett DeSelms will soon terminate. Brett DeSelms is licensed in good standing with the North Carolina State Bar and is a partner at Mewborn & DeSelms in Jacksonville. To best utilize taxpayer funds, Brett serves the Board of Commissioners on a contract basis and keeps office hours at the County on a regular schedule. This evening we ask that you consider a contract to secure his legal services for the County through December 2022.

Sharon Russell, County Manager, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** We respectfully request that the Board consider the contract for legal services for the County through December 2022 with Brett DeSelms, and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the contract.

#### **C. 2020 CARES Act Grant Ordinance Amendment**

As a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic and its impact on local governments the federal government established the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The act provided funding to state & local

governments for expenses related to preparation, recovery, and response to the pandemic via the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF).

The first round of funding totaling \$3,470,516 has been received and was approved by the Board of Commissioners on May 18, 2020. The second round of funding totaling \$3,841,570 has been received and was approved by the Board of Commissioners on August 3, 2020. The grant ordinance amendment modifies the original grant ordinance adopted on June 15, 2020 to include the second round of funding. The ordinance as presented is in accordance with the plan submitted to the State which includes funds for Covid-19 testing, improved communication capabilities, local non-profits operating virtual learning centers, and contributions to municipalities. The entire amount awarded to the County is \$7.3 million, of the awarded amount approximately \$4.6 million is for salary and benefit expenses associated with the preparation, response, and recovery by the County. The remaining \$2.7 million is presented on the grant ordinance amendment and includes funding to municipalities per their requests for funding their response efforts, as well as funding to non-profits to operate virtual learning centers in support of distance learning for Onslow County Schools.

Amy Davis, Internal Auditor, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request the Board of Commissioners approve the grant ordinance amendment for the CARES Act and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the County.

#### **D. Adoption of the 2020 Emergency Operations Plan**

In the Nation's system of emergency management, local government must act first to address the public's emergency needs. Depending on the nature and size of the emergency, federal, state, and regional assistance may be provided to the local jurisdiction. The focus of our local Emergency Operations Plans is to provide effective emergency measures essential for protecting the public.

The Emergency Operations Plan helps define Onslow County's scope of preparedness and emergency activities. This Plan is flexible enough for use in any type of emergency or disaster. The Emergency Operations Plan facilitates prevention, protection, response, and short-term recovery, which helps set the stage for successful long-term recovery. Advance planning makes performing these tasks easier, especially in a changing environment.

The 2020 Onslow County Emergency Operations Plan is the culmination of a year-long process to realign the previous plan with new guidance from both the State and Federal Governments. The process incorporated guidance from the FEMA Comprehensive Planning Guide, the National Response and Recovery Frameworks, the National Incident Management System, best practices from across jurisdictions across the country, research compiled by subject matter experts in the Emergency Management field, and Lessons Learned and Corrective Actions from the Onslow County Hurricane Florence After Action

Report. The plan has been developed in conjunction with 19 County departments who directly participate in disaster response and recovery.

The 2020 Onslow County Emergency Operations Plan will replace all previous versions of the plan.

Stacie Miles, Deputy Director, Onslow County Emergency Services, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** Respectfully request the Board of Commissioner to consider approving the 2020 Emergency Operations Plan and respectfully request the Chairman to sign the Letter of Promulgation formally adopting the plan.

**E. Airport Project Ordinances and ARFF Truck purchase bid award**

On September 14, 2020 the Board of Commissioners accepted a FAA grant in the amount of \$1,383,700 from the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). This grant will cover several projects at the airport including a multi-year Airport Environmental Assessment (EA), acquire a 1,500-gallon Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) truck with associated equipment and acquire 4 pieces of snow removal equipment (SRE).

As required by N.C.G.S. 143-129, formal bids (Bid #100-20V) were solicited for the ARFF truck and associated equipment. The County received three (3) bids. After evaluating the bids received, it was determined that Oshkosh Truck Corporation was the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the base truck with Alternates 1,3,4,5 in the amount of \$756,704.

Chris White, Airport Director, will be available to present this item and answer any questions that the Board may have.

**Specific Action Requested:** Staff respectfully requests that the Board of Commissioners approve the associated project ordinances and award the bid to Oshkosh Truck Corporation and authorize the Chairman to sign the documents on behalf of the County.

- ITEM 6      CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS, if necessary**
- ITEM 7      MANAGER’S COMMENTS**
- ITEM 8      COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS**
- ITEM 9      ADJOURNMENT**