MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ELECTRONIC MEETING
April 20, 2020

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2020, via individual locations.

Members present: Chairman Linda Rouse Sutton, Vice-Chairman Roland Best, Commissioners, June Cummings, Preston Harris, Craig Hill, Mac Daughety, and Eric Rouse.

Members Absent: None.

Also present were: Michael S. James, County Manager, Joey R. Bryan, Assistant County Manager, Vickie Freeman King, Clerk to the Board, and Robert Griffin, County Attorney.

Call To Order

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Cummings offered the Invocation, and Ms. Sutton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Sutton read the from the NC Ethics Law statement.

Public Information

Ms. Pamela Brown, Health Director, gave updated information/statistics regarding COVID-19: In North Carolina, 6,764 lab confirmed cases, 179 deaths, 79,484 tests, 373 hospitalized. In Lenoir County, 27 cases, 3 waiting, 3 recovered awaiting state definition, 11 females, 16 males, cannot trace all to travel now seeing community spread. They are now concentrating on “how to open safely”. Their goals are to slow the disease and to prevent deaths, protect high risk, health care workers and EMS workers.

Ms. Jerri King, EMS Director shared information regarding the plan for homeless during this pandemic. Ms. King stated a homeless plan is in place in the event that individual(s) within our homeless population require isolation and/or quarantine as a result of either being symptomatic, testing positive, or being in contact with someone positive. A local hotel has agreed to participate with placement at a moment’s notice. Guidance has been provided to them to assist with keeping the risk of exposure of their employees at a very low level. The length of isolation and/or quarantine is an average of 14 days. During the isolation and/or quarantine, the County will be responsible for shelter, food, laundry service (the hotel will provide this service), security (if need for enforcement of isolation or quarantine). Also, please note that all of the provisions by the County are 100% reimbursement from FEMA under the Emergency Declaration and the Public Assistance Designation.

Ms. King also shared information regarding WebEOC Web Emergency Operations Center which is emergency management software and is the core application in FEMA’s official Crisis Management System (CMS). The CMS is designed to collect situational awareness information from a wide range of logistical data sets and provide a Common Operating Platform for all users. Ms. King explained how the process works.
The requests are received at their office and entered into the State website for emergency management, the State EOC reviews the request and attempts to fill the resource need. This process is designed to be used by County Emergency Management offices across the state as a central point of resource procurement especially in emergency situations. It is also used during emergency situations that arise at a moment notice that do not require a state of emergency to request specialized State resources for local needs. Upon filling the request, the resource is shipped out to the County. Lenoir County is a designated centralized distribution and receiving point. They receive calls 24/7 when shipment is in route, so that someone from their office such as Deputy Directors, Emergency Planner Samuel Kornegay and Fire Marshal Dustin Burkett, are on site to receive the shipment.

Commissioner Harris read the Proclamation: National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week.

Upon a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Best, the consent agenda was unanimously approved for Items 1-12.

Upon a motion a motion by Mr. Hill and a second by Mr. Daughety, the regular agenda was unanimously approved for items 13-14.

Additions/Deletions or Adoptions to the Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of April 6, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes. King/Bryan


3. Resolution Approving Records Retention and Disposition Schedule. James


5. Budget Ordinance Amendment to appropriate funds received from the NC Rural Economic Development for FY16/17 building reuse: Midtown Motor Lodge. Barss

6. Resolution Approval and Execution of Debris Monitoring and Recovery Services Contract: Tetra Tech, Inc. King

7. Resolution Approving Lenoir County Health Department Clinic Doorway Installation. Brown

8. Resolution Approving Lenoir County Health Department EH Daily Log. Brown

9. Resolution Approving Lenoir County Health Department Records Scanning For Environmental Health. Brown
10. Resolution Approving Lenoir County Health Department WIC Computers. Brown

11. Resolution Approving Lenoir County Health Department WIC Office Mural. Brown

12. Resolution Authorizing Samuel Kornegay, Deputy Director, Emergency Management, as the Primary Agent and Jerri King, Emergency Service Director as Secondary Agent for a Hazard Mitigation Grant from Hurricane Dorian DR4465 and Execution of a Grant Application. King

Appointments

Item No. 13 was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. Board.

Other Items

Item No. 14 were items from Mike James, County Manager thanked the Board for their patience during this unique time in trying to manage the meetings via Zoom. Attached are the regular monthly Inspections and Transit Reports. He thanked Pam and Jerri for their work in collaborating between each other and the team to have the best response as possible as a community during this COVID-19 event. They have revamped the communications strategies working with Bryan to continue to share more and more information as it becomes available, and as they have more data to share, they will continue to do so. Also, as Pam eluded to as we transition from actually dealing with the event and moving toward the reopening, we are building a communications plan depending on the path the governor chooses. We will try to be a resource to our business community and our residents to understand what the phase approach will be. Mr. James stated during the brief budget work session after the Commissioners, and in vain of that he will be talking about some revenue forecasting which is going to be a difficult fiscal year for us but will work through that. One thing he has done is to begin to reach out to our outside partners. The Fire Marshal has sent a letter to our volunteer fire departments to inform them that a portion of their revenue which is sales tax will be impacted by COVID-19 sales tax receipts. We want them to be aware as they begin to plan their budget for next year. He will be having a meeting with Dr. Hunt and Brent Williams Wednesday to begin talking about their budgets for next year and share some information from our standpoint as to the impact of COVID-19 on our local revenues. We are trying to have those conversations with our community partners and our funding agencies to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Item No. 15 Items from County Commissioners. Mr. Daughety asked for the organization of a committee that would look into the furtherance of Broad Band service for Lenoir County area. Mr. Daughety will chair the committee with Mr. Hill, Mr. Rouse, and Mr. James as members.

Mr. James shared budget information via PowerPoint presentation.

Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Mr. Rouse, and unanimously agreed.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:08 p. m.
Respectfully submitted,

Vickie F. King  
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed by,

Joey R. Bryan  
Assistant County Manager