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**Gaston County Board
of Commissioners**

GASTON COUNTY

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 27, 2020

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met in Regular Session on October 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., in The Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Public Forum, Gaston County Courthouse.

Chairman Tracy L. Philbeck presided with Commissioners Jack B. Brown, Vice-Chairman; Chad B. Brown, Bob Hovis, Tom Keigher and Ronnie Worley in attendance.

Commissioner Allen R. Fraley was not in attendance.

Others present included Dr. Kim S. Eagle, County Manager; Jonathan L. Sink, County Attorney; and Angela Stacks, Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Upon request of Chairman Philbeck, Commissioner Hovis led those assembled in the Invocation and Commissioner Worley led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge William Gaston Award Presentation

Commissioner Hovis presented:

- A very important part of this Board's mission is to encourage citizen participation in county government and community involvement.
- In 1998, the County Commission established an annual award bearing the name of the County's namesake, Judge William Gaston (1778-1844), to recognize those volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary commitment, dedication, and leadership. Since its establishment, the County Commission has honored 63 recipient volunteers for their services to the Gaston County community.
- This year the Board of Commissioners has the privilege of presenting the William Gaston Award to one outstanding individual: Mrs. Clare Charzewski
- At this time, I would ask Mrs. Clare Charzewski to come to the podium along with any family and friends she has with her to receive the William Gaston Award.

Mrs. Clare Charzewski

Commissioner Keigher presented:

Mrs. Clare Charzewski has lived in Gaston County for twenty-three years, and resides in Cramerton. She has committed many years to serving Gaston County and its citizens through various organizations. In fact, Clare has always been active in the various communities she has lived in over the years, having been elected to Boards of Education, Library Boards and holding leadership roles in various civic and philanthropic organizations.

Clare was appointed to the Library Board of Trustees in May of 2016, and immediately began to show her enthusiasm and dedication to the cause of the Gaston County Public Library. She has been a faithful attendee at too many Library programs to count, helps to promote Library programs and activities through social media and her personal contacts, and has been a great political advocate for both our needs and statewide library-related causes, such as increasing funding for the NC Kids Digital Library online service.

Two particular significant contributions made by Clare are her great support of the building renovations at the Belmont Branch Library and her outstanding leadership in recruiting sponsors for the Where the Wild Things Are Exhibit Gala last December.

The Belmont Branch was the first major branch renovation undertaken in the recent phase of building work in our 10-library system. Other than the ADA upgrades paid for with a Gaston County Township Grant, the Friends of the Gaston County Public Library provided the funding for all of the other changes to the branch, including painting, furniture, and a beautiful new service desk made with local wood and crafted by Chronicle Millworks. Securing the funds for this major project was a significant task, and Clare helped to lead the charge. Her personal relationship with John and Jennifer Church of Chronicle Millworks helped us to solidify the partnership that led to the unique service desk, and her tenacious outreach to local residents and acquaintances helped to bring in enough dollars to make the project a beautiful reality.

Similarly, when it was announced several years ago that the Library would be hosting the international touring Maurice

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Sendak exhibition, Clare immediately offered her help. As plans for a Gala Evening to kick off the exhibit began to take shape, she started reaching out once again to her friends, neighbors, local businesses, and others to promote the event and help the Friends raise the money needed to cover the significant exhibition and Gala costs. She carried informational brochures with her everywhere she went and did not stop recruiting donors, and later, attendees to the exhibit, until it was packed up and shipped off to the next location in February. Thanks in major part to her efforts, the Gala and exhibit were major successes, with over 2,300 people in attendance in the 6-week exhibit period.

Clare has been a delightful addition to the Library Board. Her support for the Library's administration, staff, and objectives has been unwavering. She is dedicated to our mission and asks thought-provoking questions at the Board meetings to make sure we are on the right track. Even through personal circumstances that for a time limited her mobility, she has never stopped doing all she can to be an enthusiastic and generous supporter of the Gaston County Public Library.

Clare is married to David, they have 3 married daughters and 7 grandchildren. The youngest was born just a few short days ago. She is a member of two book clubs and has a true passion for playing Competition Bridge, for which she has earned the title of Life Master. She is a member of the Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont, serving as a member of the Pastoral Council and teaching in the Religious Education program.

Clare, the County Commission is most grateful for your continued advocacy and diligent support of our libraries your continued efforts to make Gaston County a better place to live, work and play.

Mrs. Charzewski accepted and thanked BOC for the award; advised the library is her real passion; the Library Director has made the library an outstanding place; wished the incoming Library Director, Ms. Susan McDonald, luck in following the former Director's footsteps.

Chairman Philbeck invited Mrs. Charzelwki to the dais for a photo with the full Board.

Public Hearing - Zoning Map Change: Z20-16 Kent Wilson Harmon (Applicant); Property Parcel: 157573, Located at Long Shoals Rd., Lincolnton, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-3) Single Family General Zoning District

Chairman Philbeck announced the Public Hearings as advertised; explained procedures to be used; called for the motion to enter into Public Hearings.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Jack Brown, the BOC unanimously entered into Public Hearings.

With a quorum of the Planning Board in attendance, Chairman Philbeck recognized Mrs. Sarah Penley, Building and Development Services Senior Planner, for comments.

Mrs. Penley advised that subject request is to rezone parcel 157573 located at Long Shoals Rd., Lincolnton, NC, from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-3) Single Family General Zoning District; the Applicant/Property owner is Kent Harmon; 2.33 acres is being considered for rezoning and the current use of the property is vacant.

She reviewed maps, including aerial, zoning and adjoining property owners' maps as follows: property is located in the 1800 block of Long Shoals Rd.; located in the northcentral area of the County (west of the Town of High Shoals, east of Cherryville, and south of the Lincoln County line or boundary); current use is vacant; adjoining properties are residential in nature, and some are agricultural. The area is zoned (R-1) Single Family Limited which is consistent in the immediate

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area with some (R-3) Single Family General Zoning and (RMF) Residential Multifamily zoning to the south of the subject site. Adjoining property owners were notified for the purposes of public hearing.

The property is located within the Rural Area Designation of Planning Area 1: Rural Gaston; based on the goals and objectives and zoning district pattern in the overall vicinity; it is staff's opinion that the request is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Comp Plan); the request was advertised and notices were mailed out per County policy; staff received one call for information and that was the only call that we received regarding this application.

Chairman Philbeck called for citizen comment and for questions from the Planning Board and BOC; none were heard.

Chairman Philbeck excused the Planning Board to the First Appearance Courtroom, Room 2D for deliberations.

Public Hearing – To Approve Road Renaming of Hood Road to Eaves Farm Road

Chairman Philbeck recognized Mrs. Penley for comments.

Mrs. Penley advised subject request is to rename a private drive from Hood Rd. to Eaves Farm Rd. by submittal of a property owner's petition, bearing four of five property owners' signatures that adjoin this roadway, in favor of renaming the private drive; the property is located in Cherryville Township (off Kiser Rd.) and services three residential addresses and meets the Ordinance requirements for renaming streets and roadways in the County.

She reviewed aerial and adjoining property owners maps and advised the property is located off Kiser Rd. (in western portion of County; east of Cleveland County line; north of Bessemer City; southeast of Town of Cherryville); adjoining property owners were notified of public hearing; the request was advertised and notices were mailed out per County policy; staff did not receive any calls or inquiries about the application.

Chairman Philbeck called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; none was heard.

Chairman Philbeck called for a motion to approve.

2020-257 Commissioner Fraley - Building & Development Services – To Approve Road Renaming of Hood Road to Eaves Farm Road

On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2020-257**, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Planning Board is authorized to provide recommendations for Street Naming or Street Renaming of roadways in the unincorporated areas of Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Planning Board reviewed the street proposed for renaming and after consideration are recommending the change below.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners approve the road name change as follows:

Renaming of Hood Road to Eaves Farm Road

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Manager is authorized to make the necessary notifications to the appropriate State and local officials.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (ACCESS) - To Request Permission to Apply for NCDOT/PTD FY22 Community Transportation Program (5311) Grant to Provide Rural Public Transportation Services; Enter into an Agreement with the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Provide the Necessary Assurances and Required Local Match

Chairman Philbeck introduced Mr. Michael Coone, DHHS Adult & Aging Services Administrator, for comments.

Mr. Coone advised he oversees ACCESS Central Transportation; purpose of subject grant is to enhance access to citizens in non-urbanized areas to healthcare, shopping, education, employment, public services, recreation and to coordinate County's transportation systems with surrounding systems to improve mobility and efficiency regionally.

The grant involves three projects: Administrative - \$255,851 (with a 20% local match of \$51,171); Operating - \$300,000 (with a 50% local and 50% federal match of \$150,000); Capital - \$918,225 (with a 10% local match of \$91,823); the total funding request amount is \$1,474,076 with a total local match of \$292,994.

The Administrative portion of grant includes salaries and benefits for three administrative staff (a coordinator, dispatch supervisor and administrative support specialist), building utilities and supplies, staff training (including travel, drug and alcohol testing, computer support and technical assistance).

The Operating portion is used for clients' transportation; for the last couple of years, this grant has been used for drivers and dispatch salaries.

The Capital portion will replace 12 vehicles that have met their useful life and includes the vehicles lettering, logos, advanced technological expenses (including DVRs and cameras) and an automatic vehicle location device and software to help manage security footage.

Chairman Philbeck called for citizen comment; hearing none, called for questions from BOC.

Commissioner Hovis asked how many citizens did ACCESS serve the last operating year; would like to have data on costs per trip.

Mr. Coone advised ACCESS does about 600 trips/day; Covid-19 has impacted the number of trips this year; staff is working on data on the cost per trip.

Chairman Philbeck called for a motion to approve.

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2020-258 Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (ACCESS) - To Request Permission to Apply for NCDOT/PTD FY22 Community Transportation Program (5311) Grant to Provide Rural Public Transportation Services; Enter into an Agreement with the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Provide the Necessary Assurances and Required Local Match

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2020-258**.

Agenda Revision/Approval

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously approved the Agenda of October 27, 2020.

Approval of Minutes

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved the Minutes of the Closed Session of June 4, 2020 per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6), Closed Session of June 23, 2020 per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), Closed Session of July 28, 2020 per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), Special Meeting of August 3, 2020, Regular Meeting of August 25, 2020, Closed Session of August 25, 2020 per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) and the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2020.

Citizen Recognition

No requests.

Consent Agenda

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

2020-259 Board of Commissioners - Retirement Commendation - Charles L. Moore

2020-260 Commissioner Worley - Proclamation - To Proclaim October 24, 2020 as World Polio Day in Gaston County

2020-261 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal FVPSA (Family Violence Prevention Services Act) Grant Funds for the Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center (\$30,000 - 20% Match of \$6,000) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
FVPS Grant: Year 2	010-05-5810-5582-425009-21552	(\$30,000)
Salaries: FVPS Grt Yr 2	010-05-5810-5582-510001-21552	\$25,225
FICA: FVPS Grt Yr 2	010-05-5810-5582-510100-21552	\$1,891
Retirement: FVPS Grt Yr 2	010-05-5810-5582-510101-21552	\$2,884

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2020-262 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Department of Justice (DOJ) Federal Funds for a 2020 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the Amount of \$62,439 and to Approve the Required Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Gastonia and Gaston County per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
2020 JAG: Police	010-02-4310-4310-425042-21553	(\$10,346)
2020 JAG: Police	010-02-4310-4310-560000-21553	\$10,346
2020 JAG: City of Gastonia	010-02-4310-4310-425042-21554	(\$36,484)
2020 JAG: City of Gastonia	010-02-4310-4310-560000-21554	\$36,484
2020 JAG: Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-425042-21555	(\$15,609)
2020 JAG: Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-560000-21555	\$15,609

2020-263 Commissioner Philbeck - Budget & Management Services - To Amend the FY 2021 Fee Schedule for the Public Information Office and Adult Services as follows:

Details	Adopted Fee Schedule FY20	Recommended Fee Schedule FY21	Change
Central Transportation (ACCESS) Driven by 3rd Party Reimbursement			
Adult Daycare Daily	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ -
Public Information			
Government Access Channel Bulletin Board per pg	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ -
Government Access Channel Bulletin Board Editing for Existing PG per pg	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ -
Government Access Channel Live Broadcast First Two Hours	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ -
Government Access Channel Live Broadcast Additional TIME per hr	\$ 177.00	\$ 177.00	\$ -
Closed Captioning per hr	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Videotaping One Man Crew per hr	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ -
Videotaping Two Man Crew per hr	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	\$ -
Video Editing per hr	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ -
Studio Production per hr	\$ 177.00	\$ 177.00	\$ -

2020-264 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional State Grant Funds from the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement for the Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center (DV Funds - \$45,856; Marriage License Fees - \$17,500; Divorce Filing Fees - \$19,000) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
DV Grant: NCC4W (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-425104-21556	(\$45,856)
Salaries: NCC4W Yr 2 (DV)	010-05-5810-5582-510001-21556	\$39,512
FICA: NCC4W Yr 2 (DV)	010-05-5810-5582-510100-21556	\$3,118
Retire: NCC4W Yr 2 (DV)	010-05-5810-5582-510101-21556	\$1,975
NCC4W DV Grant (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-510101-21556	\$1,251
NCC4W Marriage Lic Grt (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-425081-21557	(\$17,500)
Salaries: NCC4W Marriage (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-510001-21557	\$17,250
NCC4W Marriage (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-560000-21557	\$250
NCC4W:Divorce Filing Fee (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-425101-21558	(\$19,000)
NCC4W Divorce File Fee (Yr 2)	010-05-5810-5582-560000-21558	\$19,000

2020-265 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional State Grant Funds from the Child Advocacy Centers of NC (CACNC) for The Lighthouse (\$42,930) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-420001-21563	(\$42,930)
Salaries: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-510001-21563	\$25,349

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FICA: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-510100-21563	\$1,939
Retirement: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-510101-21563	\$2,281
Health Ins: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-510103-21563	\$3,335
Program Supplies: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-520002-21563	\$500
Dues: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-520012-21563	\$600
F/E: FY21 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-540001-21563	\$8,926

2020-266 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional State Grant Funds from Child Advocacy Centers of NC for The Lighthouse (\$7,000) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
2020 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-420000-21562	(\$7,000)
Training: 2020 CACNC Grant	010-05-5810-5585-520011-21562	\$7,000

2020-267 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Management Services - To Accept and Appropriate Additional State Grant COVID Funds Awarded to The Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center by the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement (\$56,603) per Budget Change Request

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Covid-19 Relief Assist Grant	010-05-5810-5582-420000-21568	(\$56,603)
F/E<5K: Covid19 Relief Assist	010-05-5810-5582-540001-21568	\$26,603
Vehicles:Covid19 Relief Assist	010-05-5810-5582-540003-21568	\$30,000

2020-268 Commissioner Philbeck - County Attorney - To Confirm N.C. Industrial Commission Settlement in File No. I.C. 18-740479 - Kennerly v. Gaston County in the Amount of \$35,000

2020-269 Commissioner Philbeck - County Attorney - To Confirm N.C. Industrial Commission Settlement in File No. I.C. 13-739686 - Lattimore v. Gaston County in the Amount of \$115,000

2020-270 Commissioner Philbeck - County Attorney - To Confirm N.C. Industrial Commission Settlement in File No. I.C. 17-787662 Cloninger v. Gaston County in the Amount of \$75,000

2020-271 Commissioner Jack Brown - County Attorney - To Confirm N.C. Industrial Commission Settlement in File No. I.C. 19-022546 - May v. Gaston County in the Amount of \$170,000

2020-272 Commissioner Philbeck - County Manager - To Accept Departmental Budget Change Requests as Information as follows:

EFF DATE	DEPT	ACCOUNT	DR/CR	AMOUNT
09/01/2020	Public Works	040-01-4265-4260-540006-	C	\$ 961.70
09/01/2020		040-01-4265-4260-540005-09164	D	\$ 2,980.69
09/01/2020		040-01-4265-4260-540005-12181	C	\$ 2,018.99
09/02/2020	Telecommunications	010-02-4311-0000-530023-	C	\$ 250.00
09/02/2020		010-02-4311-0000-530005-	D	\$ 250.00
09/03/2020	Hope United	010-05-5810-5582-510103-	C	\$ 21,116.28
09/03/2020		010-05-5810-5582-560000-19522	D	\$ 21,116.28
09/04/2020	Emer Mgmt	010-02-4330-4330-560000-20DUK	C	\$ 70,601.37
09/04/2020		010-02-4330-0000-560000-20DUK	D	\$ 70,601.37

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09/08/2020	Finance	011-05-5114-5125-560000-205HW	D	\$ 21,505.91
09/08/2020		011-99-9900-0000-490000-	C	\$ 21,505.91
09/08/2020		011-00-0000-0000-390096-	C	\$ 21,505.91
09/08/2020		011-00-0000-0000-390097-	D	\$ 21,505.91
09/08/2020	DHHS	020-05-4810-0000-560000-20531	C	\$ 16,349.20
09/08/2020		020-05-4800-4810-560000-20531	D	\$ 16,349.20
09/09/2020	Grants	010-05-5810-5585-510001-	C	\$ 6,155.00
09/09/2020		010-05-5810-5585-540002-20554	D	\$ 6,155.00
09/09/2020	Econo Dev	010-07-4920-4920-520013-	C	\$ 2,500.00
09/09/2020		010-07-4920-4920-540001-	D	\$ 2,500.00
09/11/2020	GEMS	010-02-4370-0000-530015-	C	\$ 8,820.00
09/11/2020		010-02-4370-0000-530010-	D	\$ 8,820.00
09/11/2020		010-02-4372-0000-530040-	C	\$ 9,180.00
09/11/2020		010-02-4372-0000-530010-	D	\$ 9,180.00
09/15/2020	Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-510002-20556	C	\$ 6,400.00
09/15/2020		010-02-4315-4315-510001-20556	D	\$ 824.00
09/15/2020		010-02-4315-4315-540001-20556	D	\$ 4,076.00
09/15/2020		010-02-4315-4315-520013-20556	D	\$ 1,500.00
09/15/2020	Permits	012-02-4350-4911-530010-Other	C	\$ 1,850.00
09/15/2020		012-02-4350-4911-540001-	D	\$ 1,850.00
09/16/2020	Grants	020-05-5585-0000-520011-20554	C	\$ 8,999.00
09/16/2020		020-05-5585-0000-530010-20554	C	\$ 13,440.00
09/16/2020		020-05-5585-0000-540002-20554	D	\$ 22,439.00
09/16/2020	Hope United	010-05-5810-5582-520007-	C	\$ 1,000.00
09/16/2020		010-05-5810-5582-520014-	D	\$ 1,000.00
09/17/2020	BOC	010-01-4110-0000-530010-20058	D	\$ 78,000.00
09/17/2020		010-01-4110-0000-530010-	C	\$ 78,000.00
09/17/2020	Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-510001-19557	C	\$ 6,257.00
09/17/2020		010-02-4315-4315-520013-19557	D	\$ 1,200.00
09/17/2020		010-02-4315-4315-540001-19557	D	\$ 5,057.00
09/17/2020		010-02-4315-4315-510001-20556	C	\$ 824.00
09/17/2020		010-02-4315-4315-520001-20556	D	\$ 824.00
09/21/2020	Co Police	010-02-4310-4310-530003-	D	\$ 5,000.00
09/21/2020		010-02-4310-4310-530010-	C	\$ 5,000.00
09/22/2020	Info Tech	010-01-4210-0000-530010-	C	\$ 6,175.62
09/22/2020		010-01-4210-0000-530030-	D	\$ 6,175.62
09/23/2020	Public Works	010-01-4265-4260-530023-18084	C	\$ 36,000.00
09/23/2020		010-01-4265-4260-540003-	D	\$ 36,000.00
09/24/2020	Landfill	060-08-4720-0000-540002-	C	\$ 250,000.00
09/24/2020		060-08-4720-0000-530023-	D	\$ 250,000.00
09/28/2020	Co Police	010-02-4310-4310-510001-	C	\$ 40,000.00
09/28/2020		010-02-4310-4310-540002-	D	\$ 40,000.00
09/29/2020	Finance	010-01-4131-0000-560000-20535	D	\$ 1,102.77
09/29/2020		010-99-9900-0000-490000-	C	\$ 1,102.77
09/29/2020	Mgr Office	010-01-4120-0000-510003-	C	\$ 2,673.00
09/29/2020		010-01-4120-0000-520011-	D	\$ 2,673.00

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2020-273 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (ACCESS Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Federal CARES Act Funds for Transportation Services in the Amount of \$270,406 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
DOT CARES Funds	010-01-4521-0000-420000-21534	(\$270,406)
DOT CARES: Salaries	010-01-4521-0000-510001-21534	\$270,406
Salaries	010-01-4521-0000-510001-	(\$270,406)
Fund Balance Appropriation	010-99-9900-0000-490000-	\$270,406

2020-274 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Health Division) - To Accept and Appropriate State Grant Funds Received from the NC Division of Public Health for the Immunization Program (\$42,705) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Hlt. St. Gnt. Flu Vac Expansion	011-05-5116-5133-425059-21560	(\$42,705)
Flu Vaccination Expansion	011-05-5116-5133-560000-21560	\$42,705

2020-275 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Health Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal/State Grant Funds Received from the NC Division of Public Health for the COVID-19 Response (\$261,191) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
COVID 19 Infection Prevention Support	011-05-5114-5125-420000-21559	(\$261,191)
COVID 19 Infection Prevention Support	011-05-5114-5125-560000-21559	\$261,191

2020-276 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Donations for the First Quarter of FY21 for Various Programs within Social Services in the Amount of \$3,586 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Employee Activities:Donations	020-05-4790-0000-415001-18142	(2,012)
Adult Services: Donations	020-05-5600-0000-415001-	(973)
Nutrition: Donations	020-05-5622-0000-415003-	(601)
Employee Activities Donations	020-05-4790-0000-560000-18142	2,012
Special Programs:Donations- Adult Serv	020-05-5600-0000-560000-08159	973
Special Programs:Donations- Nutrition	020-05-5600-0000-560000-15259	601

2020-277 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Federal CARES Act Funds for Supplemental Payments to Foster Care Placements in the Amount of \$89,900 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
CARES: Foster Care	020-05-5867-0000-420000-20579	(89,900)
CARES: Foster Care	020-05-5867-0000-560000-20579	89,900

2020-278 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation Funds to Assist with COVID Related Supplies for the Meals on Wheels Program in the Amount of \$4,950 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
MOW: COVID Funds	020-05-5620-0000-430000-21561	(4,950)
MOW: COVID Funds	020-05-5620-0000-560000-21561	4,950

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- 2020-279 Commissioner Chad Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Federal CARES Act Funds for the LINKS Program to Assist Young Adults with COVID-19 Related Issues in the Amount of \$10,000 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
CARES: LINKS Program	020-05-5867-5868-420000-21564	(10,000)
CARES: LINKS Program	020-05-5867-5868-560000-21564	10,000

- 2020-280 Commissioner Chad Brown - Family Justice Center - Proclamation - To Proclaim October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

- 2020-281 Commissioner Chad Brown - Emergency Management/Fire Services - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of October 4-10, 2020 as Fire Prevention Week and Adopt the Theme: Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!**

- 2020-282 Commissioner Chad Brown - Emergency Management/Fire Services - To Approve the Transfer of Accumulated Funds Realized from Past Tax Collections, Revaluation, Interest Earned, Etc. to Lowell Volunteer Fire Department (\$5,328) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	028-99-9900-0000-490000	(5,328)
*Additional Subsidies		
Lowell	028-02-4420-0000-570007-	5,328

- 2020-283 Commissioner Chad Brown - Emergency Management/Fire Services - To Approve the Transfer of Accumulated Funds Realized from Past Tax Collections, Revaluation, Interest Earned, Etc. to Tryonota Volunteer Fire Department (\$48,017) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	028-99-9900-0000-490000	(48,017)
*Additional Subsidies		
Chestnut Ridge	028-02-4403-0000-570007-	\$14,978
Tryonota	028-02-4417-0000-570007-	\$33,039

- 2020-284 Commissioner Chad Brown - Emergency Management/Fire Services - To Approve the Transfer of Accumulated Funds Realized from Past Tax Collections, Revaluation, Interest Earned, Etc. to South Point Volunteer Fire Department (\$71,068) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	028-99-9900-0000-490000	(71,068)
*Additional Subsidies		
South Point	028-02-4416-0000-570007-	71,068

- 2020-285 Commissioner Chad Brown - Emergency Management/Fire Services - To Approve the Transfer of Accumulated Funds Realized from Past Tax Collections, Revaluation, Interest Earned, Etc. to Community Volunteer Fire Department (\$22,053) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	028-99-9900-0000-490000	(22,053)
*Additional Subsidies		
Community	028-02-4405-0000-570007-	22,053

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2020-286 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Correct Budget Change Request for Board Action 2020-079 Adopted at 3/24/2020 BOC Meeting (Administrative Correction) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Equipment Lease Principal	024-02-4311-0000-550003-20044	1,329,670
Fund Balance Appropriated	024-99-9900-0000-490000-	(1,329,670)

2020-287 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Appropriate Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant Funds Out of Fund Balance in Order to Refund the State for Unspent Funds in Fiscal Year 2019/2020 (\$1,744) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Psychological Testing	010-05-5830-0000-560010-20511	1,744
Fund Balance Appropriated	010-99-9900-0000-490000	(\$1,744)

2020-288 Commissioner Worley - Finance - Administrative Change to Resolution 2020-168 to Reflect Actual Budget Deficits (Administrative Correction) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	010-99-9900-0000-490000	(6,100,000)
Transfer to Health Fund	010-98-9800-0000-580011	3,500,000
Transfer to Debt Service:Schools	010-98-9800-0000-580031	2,600,000
Transfer from General Fund	011-98-9800-0000-480010	(3,500,000)
Fund Balance Appropriated	011-99-9900-0000-490000	3,500,000
Transfer from General Fund	031-98-9800-0000-480010	(2,600,000)
Fund Balance Appropriated	031-99-9988-0000-490000	2,600,000

2020-289 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Accept as Information the Attached Vehicle Tax Refunds Less than \$100. These Tax Refunds Should Be Recorded in the Board's Minutes. (Total Vehicle Tax Refunds - \$4,753.90) as follows:

Gaston County, North Carolina - Listing of Property Tax Refunds Less Than \$100.00 for Vehicles
To be Reported at the October 27, 2020 Board Meeting

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT	TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
NCVTS Refunds			
Belcher, Lisa Mary	25.39	Jimenez, Roger Alan	15.70
Carpenter, Amber Tate	93.05	Laughlin, James Terry	54.90
Cochran, Stephen Wesley	44.77	Lincoln County Tax Dept.	4.08
Drake, Alan Patrick	20.60	Mallonee, Walter, Bascom IV	24.59
Evans, Bert Carroll II	25.15	McVickers, Ray Wilson Jr.	63.60
Evans, Bert Carroll II	4.03	Meakin, Charles James	4.99
Evans, Bert Carroll II	5.17	Odom, Robby Allen	60.57
Farley, Byron Todd	5.60	Odom, Robby Allen	35.39
Gordon, Ralph Gregory	51.10	Paramore, Kathy Creech	55.03
Hines, Joshua Caleb	11.00	Puckett, Lisa Michelle	39.25
Jarnigan, Daniel Lamar	7.61	Walters, Lacey Cloninger	33.59
Jenkins, Crystal Michelle	43.38	Total VTS Refunds for April 2020	\$ 743.78
Jimenez, Roger Alan	15.24		
Blundell, Kathryn Crouch	28.20	Pressley, Kevin Jenkins	79.37
Crawford, Jordan Andrew	51.84	Schultz, Amanda Joy	30.20
Dove, Walter Lee Jr.	8.41	Smith, Levacy Pomeroy	68.04
Howard William Henry	36.59	Smith, Phillip Brian	39.34
Lane, Douglas Ray	76.89	Tassmer, Andrew David	27.00
Leeper, Abigail Hope	27.04	Welch, John Kelly	34.82
Lincoln County Tax Dept.	74.07	Wentz, Narvice Carrigan	7.87

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McMurray, Fred Dillard III	8.33	Willis, Linda Ross	73.77
Morris, Randy Dale	23.86	Total VTS Refunds for May 2020	\$ 762.39
Morris, Susan Hart	66.75		
Absher, Michael Scott	15.78	Leshner, Anthony Eugene	8.95
Ashworth, Carolyn Carson	15.07	Little, Michael Aaron	21.42
Barker-Witkowski, Willa Jean Lorain	42.48	Manson, Samantha Gail Dawn	28.27
Bass, Joe Carson	26.97	Maynard, Terry Lee	26.52
Bell, James Larry	60.26	McCall, Wendy Lynn	77.52
Black, Amanda Clonninger	18.76	McCoy, Grefonda Lashay Cunningham	22.24
Branch, Buddy Ray	87.76	McKnight, Cynthia Ann	81.57
Brenes, Carlos ALberto	61.07	Mellander, Marc Joseph	15.26
Carrington, Linda Gail	18.20	Mellander, Marc Joseph	15.42
Chaney, Steve Michael	2.78	Milam, Roger Clyde	93.10
Childers, Jerry Evon	15.24	Miles, Priscilla	35.07
Collins, Kim Smith	78.57	Monte, Winfred Verril	87.70
Costner, Anthony Eugene	34.73	Motz, Bobby Allen	7.48
Craig, Vester Lloyd Jr.	17.85	Odonoghue, Michael Patrick	11.07
Cuthbertson, Dovona Joyce	3.47	Owensby, Katherine Hall	61.43
Deese, Kimberly Leigh	12.30	Painter, Mitchell Frank	87.23
Denton, David Daniel	67.14	Phillips, Ashley Blair	82.59
Farrah, Michelle Hannah	89.76	plott, William Lee	49.18
Fisher, Charles Edwin Jr.	50.24	Poliquin, Rhonda Ann	10.48
Froneberger, Minnie Beard	5.31	Pruett, James Houston	33.24
Fry, Ronald John	37.22	Raja, Ozair, Omar	51.71
Griffin, Pearley Mae	57.98	Rhyne, Jeffrey Todd	42.73
Grindle, Leroy	56.55	Rogers, Danielle Nicole	69.53
Guffey, Victoria Catherine	6.93	Satterthwaite, Mark James	60.41
Haggard, Joshua Ryan	47.24	Schaffner, Charles Peter	53.28
Hall Stacey Darrell	50.99	Schrum, Jeffrey Lee	75.27
Harris, Hannah Rose	13.24	Setzer, Robin Renee	36.24
Hawkins, Jason Daniel	97.61	Severance, Eric Jude	59.30
Hill, Barry Steven	73.61	Soldano, Joseph	76.02
Holland, Michael Alec	74.83	Thompson, Mark Allen	13.78
Hollifield, Brandi Ford	41.07	Tyler, Gregory Marr Jr.	34.37
Holstein, Cody Lee	65.45	Underdown, Alvin Lewis	16.54
Jackson, Dana Athlene	11.41	Vanderbilt, Matthew John	28.09
Jones, Danny Eugene	15.50	Vaughn, Timmothy Robert	66.91
Jones, David Gregory	27.46	Wiles, Mary Holloway	14.39
Jones, Natalie Elizabeth	41.32	Williams, David Lee	17.12
Kirkpatrick, Charles Durane	60.64	Wyont, Deborah Ann	61.93
Kirkpatrick, Stephanie Leigh	66.55	Total VTS Refunds for June 2020	\$ 3,247.73
Krist, Jochen Alexander	45.03		
		Total VTS Vehicle Refunds	\$ 4,753.90

2020-290 Commissioner Chad Brown - Parks and Recreation - To Accept and Appropriate the Senior Center General Purpose Grant from Centralina Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging (\$10,515) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Senior Center General Purpose	010-04-6130-0000-425086	(\$10,515)
Senior Center General Purpose	010-04-6130-0000-560000-20501	(\$3,505)
Senior Center General Purpose Grant	010-04-6130-0000-560000-21565	\$14,020

2020-291 Commissioner Hovis - Public Works - To Declare One Non-essential, County Owned Property Surplus and Authorize Staff to Initiate Sale Procedures Pursuant to Applicable North Carolina General Statutes (PID#155370 - 813 Freedom Mill Rd., Gastonia)

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2020-292 Commissioner Fraley - Tax Collections - Pursuant to G.S. 105-381, the Tax Collector Requests that the Listed Tax Refunds be Made. (Releases and Refunds - \$3,673.41; Overpayments - \$42,291.82; VTS Refunds - \$6,617.89; Grand Total - \$53,213.12) as follows:

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
SEPTMEBER 2020 RELEASES AND REFUNDS	
Crisis Pregnancy Center	\$503.90
Kirk, Charles	\$359.21
Shirlon, James	\$1,061.87
Ziltener, Betty	\$1,748.43
TOTAL	\$3,673.41
SEPTEMBER 2020 OVERPAYMENTS	
Adoredevo & Associates	\$266.09
Advantage Title LLC	\$201.65
Advantage Title LLC	\$211.86
Advantage Title LLC	\$474.12
Advantage Title LLC	\$416.76
Advantage Title LLC	\$354.27
Allen Mobile Home Park LLC	\$117.37
Andrew M Adams PA	\$488.79
Andrew M Adams PA	\$413.77
Avellaneda, Avelino	\$249.13
Barber, James	\$2,560.00
BFM Capital LLC	\$174.56
Brown, Patricia	\$145.53
Brown, Rita	\$248.33
Brown, Rita	\$248.33
Carolinas Home & Land	\$126.75
Cecil & Cecil PA	\$870.98
City of Lowell	\$214.20
Cloninger, Mary	\$100.00
First Federal Savings Bank	\$1,006.43
Fitz-William Charles III	\$1,928.00
Hall, Betty N	\$507.37
Hannah, Ryan	\$127.64
Hord, Douglas	\$1,102.69
Hunter, James	\$201.15
Jefferies, Alexia A	\$180.66
Jeffrey Grant Koeing Attorney	\$232.48
Justice, Beverly	\$149.51
Levesque, Zachary	\$1,522.40
Lima One Capital LLC	\$1,511.46
Little, Ricky A	\$489.24
Liverett Revocable Trust	\$448.00
Loftin, Casaundra	\$230.75
Long, Erin	\$682.35
Martin, Hilda B	\$800.00
Mercer, Jack	\$125.00
Mercer, Jack	\$175.00
Minnick, Jeffrey	\$1,850.90
Moore, Melissa	\$165.70
Moore, Melissa	\$170.33

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Moore, Melissa	\$171.82
Mortgage Connect	\$361.15
Mortgage Connect	\$611.96
Orange Coast Lender Services	\$437.17
Patel, Yancey	\$167.83
Pottluri Ventures LLC	\$586.22
Potts, Daniel A	\$1,352.00
Potts, Daniel A	\$169.00
Princess Street Partners	\$494.96
Purser & Glenn PLLC	\$267.56
Reid, Cheryl V	\$1,563.38
Reliable Fire & Safety	\$250.00
Shelton, Kenneth	\$1,000.00
Sherrill, Mary Jane	\$100.00
Silk Abstract Company	\$838.09
Silk Abstract Company	\$509.74
Silk Abstract Company	\$835.97
Silk Abstract Company	\$285.99
Stone, Clayborne	\$2,400.00
Stott, Hollowell, Palmer, & Windham	\$201.20
Stowers, Jason	\$776.42
Strickland, Joy	\$125.71
Taylor, George	\$584.00
Terra Title LLC	\$122.26
Thomas, John Charles	\$487.59
Thornburg, Gerald D	\$100.00
Timios, INC	\$181.64
Town of Dallas	\$382.78
Transtar National Title	\$263.77
Vanderbilt Mortgage	\$171.66
Wallace, Tammy	\$487.50
Warren L Tadlock	\$171.41
Wells, Kelly	\$121.43
Whitley, Ellen	\$4,591.45
Willis, Haley	\$260.61
TOTAL	\$42,921.82

SEPTEMBER VTS REFUNDS

Ballard, Marvin Kopf III	\$184.29
Ballard, Marvin Kopf III	\$105.65
Barnes, Larry Ray	\$316.64
Blaine, Craig Crawford	\$169.82
Byrd, David Lee	\$195.41
Carpenter, Kelly Lynch	\$132.93
Chapman, Phillip Roger II	\$208.35
City of Bessemer City	\$673.57
Dellinger, Amanda Leigh	\$120.83
Denton, Christyn Reid	\$188.26
Helms, Alfred Harrison	\$1,418.16
Ibanez, Nancy Lopez	\$119.01
Krug, Vikki Wyche	\$168.30
Lee, Wendy Stancil	\$143.24
Loftis, Daniel Wesley	\$292.58
Massey, Jerry Alan	\$104.76

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Molby, Connie Marie	\$149.10
Posey, Carol Pruitt	\$114.38
Pruett, Scotty Arthur	\$186.22
Rankin, Ted Wesson	\$246.72
Rojas, Alexander	\$169.53
Scates, Diego Santana William	\$110.37
Smith, Greta Thompson	\$154.31
Sturgess, Shane Edward	\$147.25
Terry, Sheila Hambrick	\$182.22
Vasiliou, Christopher	\$107.30
Watson, Jimmy Lee	\$126.27
Webb, Jeremy Andrew	\$137.15
Wilson, Mearving Chris	\$101.51
Zahary, Troy Scott	\$143.76
TOTAL	\$6,617.89

GRAND TOTAL **\$53,213.12**

2020-293 Commissioner Jack Brown - Travel & Tourism - To Accept and Appropriate \$10,000 from the North Carolina Tourism Promotion Grant as a Part of the House Bill 1023 (Coronavirus Relief Fund/Additions & Revisions) from NCTIA (NC Travel Industry Association) and the EDPNC (Economic Development Partnership of NC) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
NC Tourism Promotion Grant	022-07-4921-0000-420001-21566	(\$10,000)
Advertising: NC Tourism Grant	022-07-4921-0000-520015-21566	\$10,000

****With the Planning Board still in deliberations, Chairman Philbeck moved to the next item of business – “Non-Consent”. The Zoning Matters were taken up after “Other Matters”.***

Non-Consent

Chairman Philbeck advised that revisions to the Code of Ordinances must pass unanimously by all Commissioners on the first reading or be placed on the November 10 Agenda for a second reading for a vote by a simple majority of members present.

2020-294 Commissioner Hovis - County Attorney - To Amend the Gaston County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3 - Animals, Article I, Section 3-8 - Responsibility to Control Animal - to Create Subsection (C) - Guidelines for Animal Tethering (First Reading)

Commissioner Hovis introduced the motion to approve and Commissioner Jack Brown provided the second.

Chairman Philbeck called for discussion.

Commissioner Hovis thanked the Animal Care and Enforcement Advisory Board for their diligent work on this issue and thanked staff for their input.

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Chairman Philbeck called for the vote, and the BOC unanimously approved **2020-294**, the **First Reading** of an amendment of the Gaston County Code of Ordinances Creating Subsection C – Guidelines for Animal Tethering. **Required Second Reading November 10, 2020.**

Appointments

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously reappointed to the **Transportation Advisory Board**:

Motion Introduced	Seconded	Appointee	Term Ending
Commissioner Chad Brown on behalf of Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Keigher	Mr. Mark Lamphiear	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown on behalf of Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Keigher	Ms. Audra Ellis	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown on behalf of Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Keigher	Mr. Benjamin Boyles	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown on behalf of Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Keigher	Ms. Shelly Alman	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown on behalf of Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Keigher	Mr. Peter Dingle	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown	Commissioner Keigher	Mr. Julio Paredes	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Chad Brown	Commissioner Keigher	Ms. JoAnn Raxter	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Hovis	Commissioner Philbeck	Mr. Gary Washington, Jr.	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Jack Brown	Commissioner Philbeck	Ms. Tina Stogner	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Jack Brown	Commissioner Philbeck	Ms. Terri Sanford	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Keigher	Commissioner Chad Brown	Mr. Narradeau Smith	October 31, 2023
Commissioner Philbeck	Commissioner Hovis	Ms. La Verne Partlow	October 31, 2023

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Ms. Allison Whitlow to the **Animal Care and Enforcement Advisory Board** to an unexpired term ending February 28, 2022.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Rev. Ronald Bowers to the **Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT)** and the **Community Child Protection Team (CCPT)** to unexpired terms ending January 31, 2023.

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously appointed to the **Workforce Development Board**:

Motion Introduced	Seconded	Appointee	Term Ending
Commissioner Chad Brown	Commissioner Keigher	Ms. Jane Harris	May 31, 2021 (Unexpired Term)
Commissioner Jack Brown	Commissioner Philbeck	Mr. Greg Smith	May 31, 2022 (Unexpired Term)

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Donnie Loftis to the **Caromont Health/Gaston Memorial Hospital Board of Directors** to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2022.

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously reappointed to the **Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority**:

Motion Introduced	Seconded	Appointee	Term Ending
Commissioner Keigher	Commissioner Chad Brown	Mr. Michael Harmon	October 31, 2026
Commissioner Philbeck	Commissioner Hovis	Mr. James Hovis, Jr.	October 31, 2026

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On motion introduced by Commissioner Chad Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Commissioner Ronnie Worley as the Full Board *Commissioner Representative (ex-officio/non-voting seat)* on the **Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors** for a one-year term, effective October 27, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Commissioner Tom Keigher as the Full Board *Commissioner Representative* to the **Gaston Regional Chamber of Commerce** for a one-year term, effective October 27, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021.

Commissioners Committee Reports

Chairman Philbeck reported:

- In November or December, the BOC will be considering the adoption of Board Rules and Procedures to guide its meetings, that will include an abbreviation of Roberts Rules of Order.
- The County Attorney will also be bringing forward a revision to the Emergency Declaration ordinance in November that will amend the current authority of the Chairman to declare an emergency by requiring Board ratification at the next meeting. He noted this will allow the full Board to be more engaged in that process.
- The Governor's Department of Health and Human Services has requested that counties create ordinances to fine citizens or create misdemeanors for not wearing masks or fine businesses and to create many more restrictions; Dr. Eagle forwarded that request to members of the Board; does not think anyone on the Board would support such action; however, he does believe the BOC has an opportunity to support wearing masks in public as much as possible, social distancing and proper hygiene. If citizens are given the right information, they can make the best decisions for themselves, better than big government. Several non-partisan studies have shown the lock downs and shut downs do not stop the spread of Covid-19; that doesn't mean the County doesn't care or isn't on top of the issue, or that vigilance isn't important – In fact, the County is probably one of the first in the state to create a task force to combat Covid-19 in the coming fall/winter; the task force meets weekly with the Health Department, CaroMont, and other healthcare professionals and Emergency Management. He thanked Dr. Eagle, staff and other leaders and experts in the community, for working diligently and monitoring these numbers weekly. The Board will not support shutting down and closing businesses.

Commissioner Hovis advised CaroMont had an all-time high of 63 patients being treated the first week in October; that number has been in the mid-40s the last three or four days; about 7 patients were on ventilators.

Chairman Philbeck advised per data received today, 4 patients are on ventilators; 46 patients are in the hospital; want the community to know the BOC and its staff, in working with CaroMont and Health and Human Services, is on top of the situation.

Commissioner Keigher advised the BOC wants to encourage the practice of good hygiene, social distancing and masks; is concerned that every seat in several restaurants are now packed with only a 6" barrier between the back of two tables; per statistics, restaurants are one of the three

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prominent areas to spread the disease; may need the Health Department to encourage those establishments to remember the distancing requirement.

The County Manager responded she will discuss that matter with the Health Director; advised the task force is physician-lead; have Kintegra, CaroMont and the Health Department at the table talking weekly, sharing data, anticipating questions and working together to reach various groups in the community, in anticipation of the upcoming flu season; believes Gaston is the only county in the state taking that kind of approach; Dr. Robinson at the Health Department has been talking to some of her peers across the state about this model and there may be some future dialogue as well as case study work that may be conducted retrospectively.

Chairman Philbeck advised the BOC has taken action since day one; staff (Health Department) has been excellent in working with healthcare providers; so far the increase in Covid-19 numbers has not taken us by surprise, because we planned on it based off the data; a lot of things are being done behind the scenes including messaging regarding the three W's (Wash, Wear and Wait).

County Manager's Report

The County Manager presented:

- **Re: Small Business Loan Program** – Referenced handout, Page 2: brief update on the program that set aside \$500k at the start of the pandemic; it contains data on the completed applications and those in process; to date, the County has received 73 applications and has funded 29 applications; the program still has funds available, and there will be flexibility to do something different with those funds, depending on the activity level seen in the next several months.

Chairman Philbeck asked if the County received funding from the state or federal government, when it set aside those funds, to stay within its budget.

The County Manager confirmed and noted she will bring back an update on the specifics of those numbers.

Commissioner Worley asked for the dollar amount of the 29 approved and funded applications.

The County Manager responded \$5,000 each for a total of \$145,000; there is still about \$350,000 left over.

She resumed her report:

- **Upcoming Presentations** – She noted page 1 of the handout outlines a work plan and scheduling timelines for upcoming presentations and dialogue, from now until the budgetary process.
- **Emergency Management Update** - She recalled her presentation and conversation with the BOC regarding the Emergency Management function in the County and the subsequent restructuring, realignment and hiring of Kevin Gordon as the Emergency Management Director.

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She advised the County has achieved some of the metrics from the presentation and she will provide an update next month.

- **Financial Advisor** – Dr. Eagle stated she would like to bring back Mr. Doug Carter (the new Financial Advisor) that attended last year's Retreat. The County is making significant progress on debt modeling, capacity planning on capital and saved \$4.4M in the refinancing of old debt.

Chairman Philbeck advised the \$4.4M in savings was huge which is two cents on the tax rate, but never made the newspaper.

She concluded her report with an outline of the timeline:

- December - discuss the BOC's vision, mission and priorities from last year's Retreat
- January - Discuss Fee Schedule and methodology
- Final audit in by February, and will discuss the Zero Fund Balance Appropriation plan; will invite Mr. Carter back to discuss the plan for the budget, bond rating, etc. The County received a positive outlook on its rating evaluation from Moody's and Standard and Poor's
- Staff will start working sessions on the budget in March
- Audit and Cost Benefit Analysis on Rescue Squads in April
- May and June – FY21 budget presentations, planning session and budget adoption.

Chairman Philbeck advised that the BOC will be conducting the Clerk's evaluation in November and that the County Attorney is working on the Clerk and County Manager contracts.

The County Manager introduced Ms. Susan McDonald as the new Library Director; she is a resident of the County and has many years of experience with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library system.

Chairman Philbeck invited Ms. McDonald to the podium to introduce herself.

Ms. McDonald advised she was excited to be here; this is her second week of employment and she toured all library branches today; she looks forward to working with staff and serving the needs of the individuals of the County.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney provided an update on the national opioid litigation and advised in talking with local counsel, and counsel within the NCACC, localities statewide are awaiting feedback from the NC Attorney General (AG) on how any potential settlement fund should be allocated and dispersed throughout the state; still need a plan or agreement for that to happen. Mr. Sink advised there are no funds available to disperse to date; critical conversations are happening between the AG, the Association and our local counsel in Greensboro, to obtain that clarity. The trials or litigations have been delayed, which pushes back deadlines; and the projected timeline is well into 2021. The West Virginia bench trial is coming in January and the New York case is set for May. The "Big 3" pharmaceutical distributors and Johnson and Johnson are the only ones who have made nationwide offers to settle to the respective AGs of each state; however, until states work out their respective allocation agreements, there will not likely be any distribution from the "Big 3". He also noted that without an agreement, the bankruptcy court will limit counties to about 15% of the total settlement.

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Other Matters

Commissioner Chad Brown advised he attended the (Lance Corporal) **Nicholas "Nick" S. O'Brien Bridge Dedication** in Stanley (off Blacksnake Rd.) on behalf of the BOC; Nick was a soldier that was killed in Afghanistan in 2010; appreciated the opportunity to do that.

Chairman Philbeck recessed the meeting at 6:55 pm to allow the Planning Board to conclude its deliberations.

Chairman Philbeck reconvened the meeting at 6:57 pm.

Zoning Matters from Public Hearings

2020-295 Commissioner Fraley - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z20-16 Kent Wilson Harmon (Applicant); Property Parcel: 157573, Located at Long Shoals Rd., Lincolnton, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-3) Single Family General Zoning District

The County Attorney advised the Planning Board recommended approval on an 8-0 vote with the following statement of consistency – *The proposed rezoning is in the Rural future land use plan. Rural areas allow for residential homes located on large lots with opportunities for agribusiness ventures. The use, going from (R-1) to (R-3) will allow the subject parcel to continue as a residential use in nature, which is consistent with the Rural designation and is in harmony with other residential uses within the immediate vicinity.*

On motion introduced by Commissioner Jack Brown and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved **2020-295** after consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and Planning Board recommendation as follows:

- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The proposed rezoning is in the Rural future land use plan. Rural areas allow for residential homes located on large lots with opportunities for agribusiness ventures. The use, going from (R-1) to (R-3) will allow the subject parcel to continue as a residential use in nature, which is consistent with the Rural designation and is in harmony with other residential uses within the immediate vicinity.

The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Property parcel: 157573, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

OCTOBER 27, 2020

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Adjournment

Chairman Philbeck called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Jack Brown and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously adjourned the Regular Meeting of October 27, 2020 at 6:59 pm.

(All aforementioned documents are on file with the Clerk to the Board.)

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

Angela Stacks
Deputy Clerk to the Board

SEAL

Donna S. Buff
Clerk to the Board