

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners convened for a regular meeting at 7:00 pm on Monday, January 7, 2019 in the Commissioners Room in the Pratt Building.

**PRESENT:**

Chairman James Leach  
 Vice Chairman Harry Southerland  
 Commissioner Tony Hunt  
 Commissioner Robert Wright  
 Commissioner Allen Thomas, Jr.,

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Letitia Edens, County Manager  
 Grady Hunt, County Attorney  
 Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Leach called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Sheriff Hubert Peterkin led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Ron Flippin gave the Invocation.

**Item 1. Adoption of Agenda**

Hoke County  
 Board of Commissioners

227 N. Main Street  
 Raeford, North Carolina  
 28376



January 7, 2019  
 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner's Room  
 Pratt Building

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**A G E N D A**


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INVOCATION & PLEDGE: Chairman James Leach

**ITEM**

1. Adoption of Agenda

2. Public Comment

3. Public Hearings: Planning Matters

Application for Conditional Use Permit CU 18-A submitted by Faulk and Foster for the use of a Wireless Telecommunications Facility located on the two (2) acre parcel located at the unaddressed parcel known as Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 194330201318. The Planning Board unanimously recommended approval at their December 11, 2018 meeting.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes from December 12, 2018 Special meeting
- b. Minutes from December 17, 2018 Regular meeting
- c. HC Vehicle Tax System Refunds totaling \$1,215.07

5. Presentation of FY 2018 Audit Report - Martin Starnes & Associates

6. Appointment of Sgt. Scott McInnis, Hoke County Sheriff Department, to JCPC Board - Lorraine Landry

7. Hoke County Sheriff's Department Items - Sheriff Hubert Peterkin

- a. Surplus Property Declaration
  - 1. 2008 Dodge Charger VIN 2B3H4348H223407
  - 2. 2003 Chevrolet Impala VIN 2G1WF36E230069049
  - 3. 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe for trade, VIN 1GHSKCKDEFR117725

b. Request to Appropriate Funds to Federal Asset Forfeiture Justice Fund

c. Consideration of the status of retiring K-9 (stabled from December 17, 2018 meeting)

8. Manager's Report

9. Closed Session

10. Adjourn

Chairman Leach asked if anyone had any changes to the Agenda. No changes were requested.

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Wright the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.**

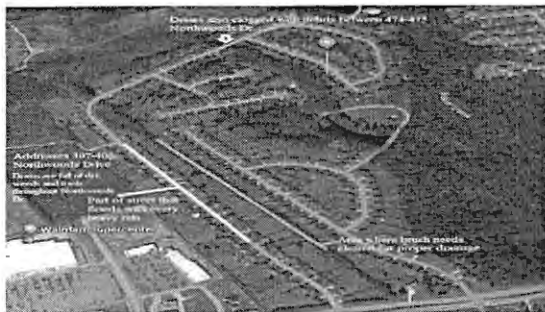
**Item 2. Public Comment**

Jennifer Hibble  
417 Northwoods Drive  
Raeford, NC 28376

Ms. Hibble advised the Board that the residents of Northwoods Subdivision are experiencing flooding as the result of a drainage issue. Debris is stopping up the drainage easement, prohibiting proper water flow. In the past the road flooded after several consecutive days of rain. Now the road floods if there's 30 minutes of hard rain. There's only one way in and one way out of Northwoods. When the road floods, the residents are essentially trapped. Flooding also prevents law enforcement and healthcare workers from accessing the neighborhood.

The community has submitted a petition for help with the drainage issue. They have also filed grievances with NC Department of Transportation. The easement between Northwoods Subdivision and Savannah Chase Subdivision is extremely overgrown. To clear this area would require heavy equipment. The community would appreciate any assistance the County can give them.

Emergency Management Coordinator Andrew Jacobs presented a brief PowerPoint report illustrating the flooding situation in Northwoods and the measures taken by the County to date to assist the residents.



**Hoke County Government Involvement**

Hoke County received information regarding flooding in Northwoods on 10/15/18.

That information was forwarded to HOC. Hoke County was advised that the drainage easement had been cleared and that HOC did not have any further plans with regards to the issue at this time.

Hoke County did not have any other plans to be taken off from the summit of the roadway on which the debris is located.

**November 13, 2018**

Hoke County Emergency Management responded to Northwoods Subdivision on 3 separate occasions.

11/13/18  
11/14/18  
11/15/18

Hoke County Emergency Management also responded to 3 other locations that day due to flooding.

Hoke County received approximately 8" of precipitation between 2018, 11/11/18 and during 11/12/18.

**November 13, 2018**

Hoke County Emergency Management staff walked the location situated between Northwoods Dr and Savannah Chase Dr.

The debris appears to be brush, leaving the maintenance of the easement with the brush and debris.

Hoke County Emergency Management staff contacted HOC again regarding the congestion. From HOC's perspective, Hoke County has been cleared and HOC does not have any plans of addressing the issue.

Hoke County Emergency Management with the assistance of a local fire department, staff had to remove sediment and debris preventing the seeping of water off the roadway.

Conclusion

Howe County averaged 8.1" of precipitation for 2018.  
 Also the bulk of it came between September and the end of 11.  
 The month of November saw 5" of precipitation of that total of 21.5".

The precipitation in 2018 is nearly 20% greater than that from 2016, the same year as Hurricane Matthew. It is also nearly double that of other years with no active hurricanes.

Howe County Emergency Management contacted DOT in the matter of Northwoods Subdivision, determining the drainage system is not working, a grant for cleanup and mitigation of the drainage system. DOT will need to be given an investigation of the lack of proper structural maintenance.

When contacted by Mr. Jacobs, DOT responded that they had recently cleaned out the drainage ditch. However, when Emergency Management staff walked the ditch on November 13, 2018 they witnessed overgrown vegetation littered with household and yard debris and lacking maintenance.

Mr. Jacobs reminded the Board that 2018 saw record-breaking precipitation. Out of approximately 8 inches of rain during the month of November, roughly half of that fell on November 13, 2018.

Chairman Leach asked County Attorney Grady Hunt, who sits on the DOT Board, what, if anything, the County can do to help the residents of Northwoods. Mr. Hunt said that he contacted DOT Division 8 Engineer Brandon Jones. Division 8 staff went to Northwoods to inspect and their reply to Mr. Hunt was as follows:

*The cause of this drainage issue is a ditch that runs between both subdivisions. The attached pdf shows the location. This ditch needs to be cleaned out by the property owners.*



Commissioner Thomas asked Mr. Hunt if, although the flooding in the street is a result of the issue with the drainage ditch, was there something that DOT can do to help at the street. Mr.

Hunt replied that DOT can make repairs within their right-of-way. Until the drainage ditch is cleared the road will continue to flood.

Vice Chairman Southerland asked Mr. Jacobs how the problem can be resolved. Mr. Jacobs said that he concurred with the County Attorney that there are multiple issues regarding the drainage at Northwoods.

Chairman Leach suggested that a moratorium be placed on any further development at Northwoods until this problem is resolved.

Commissioner Thomas commented that a Northwoods resident had agreed to clean the drainage area. He asked Ms. Hibble if that was still an option. Ms. Hibble replied that someone had access to the necessary equipment to clear the area, but he wanted a waiver signed by the property owner holding him harmless if any damage was done to the homeowner's lot. Ms. Hibble continued by saying that most residents of the community rent instead of own their homes and they would not have the authority to sign a waiver. Ms. Hibble added that many of the property owners are not aware of the situation because they limit their property maintenance to the area within the fence line.

Commissioner Thomas asked if it was possible for the equipment operator to access the canal by receiving permission from one adjoining landowner and then working within the canal area. County Planner Robert Farrell said that the canal area is actually an easement owned by the adjoining lot owners.

The County Attorney commented that the equipment operator had good reason to request the waiver. If he damages a fence, landscaping or piping he is liable if there isn't a waiver signed by the homeowner. Chairman Leach added that the County would also be liable if someone came in to work on behalf of the County and caused damage to real or personal property.

Chairman Leach directed the Board and the Emergency Management staff to continue studying the situation and see if there's something that the Board can legally do to assist the residents of Northwoods. Commissioner Thomas said that the fire department might be able to pump some of the water off the roadway in the event of flooding. Mr. Jacobs warned that sediment might damage the fire department's equipment.

Commissioner Hunt asked about Ms. Hibble's suggestion of a possible second exit. Ms. Hibble said that a street connection between Northwoods and Savannah Chase, even if only used in emergency situations, would enable the residents to come and go as needed. Commissioner Hunt suggested that Mr. Farrell research the possibility of a second exit.

### **Item 3. Public Hearings: Planning Matters**

Application for Conditional Use Permit CU-18-8 submitted by Faulk and Foster for the use of a Wireless Telecommunications Facility located on the two (2) acre parcel located at the unaddressed parcel known as Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 794830201018. The Planning Board unanimously recommended approval at their December 13, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Ben Herrick, representing Faulk and Foster, told the Board that his company wishes to construct a 200' tall cell tower. The company has submitted photo simulations and conducted balloon tests. The plans comply with the County's ordinances and no variances are required.

Commissioner Hunt asked if the tower is a monopole. Mr. Herrick confirmed that it is and it is also designed for multiple carriers. Verizon is the owner, but other carriers can use it. Commissioner Hunt asked if the County can use it as well. Mr. Herrick said the County can use the tower.

**Motion: Upon motion by Vice Chairman Southerland and second by Commissioner Wright, the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.**

**Motion: Upon motion by Vice Chairman Southerland and second by Commissioner Wright, the Board voted unanimously to approve Conditional Use Permit #CU-18-8 for Faulk and Foster to contract a Wireless Telecommunications Facility.**

#### Item 4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes from December 12, 2018 Special meeting
- b. Minutes from December 17, 2018 Regular meeting
- c. NC Vehicle Tax System Refunds totaling \$1,215.07

| Agency | Amount | Agency | Amount | Agency | Amount | Agency | Amount                          |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|
| ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...                             |
|        |        |        |        |        |        |        | <b>Total Refunds \$1,215.07</b> |

Total Refunds \$1,215.07

**North Carolina Vehicle Tax System**

**NCVTIS Pending Refund report**

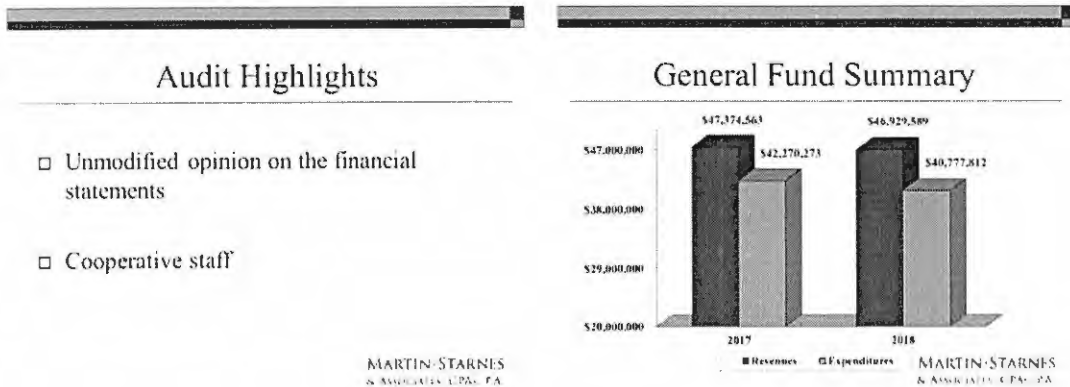
| Agency | Vehicle ID | Year | Make | Model | Class | Value | Tax | Refund | Status |
|--------|------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|--------|
| ...    | ...        | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...   | ...   | ... | ...    | ...    |
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| ...    | ...        | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...   | ...   | ... | ...    | ...    |

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Vice Chairman Southerland, the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items a-c.**

**Item 5. Presentation of FY 2018 Audit Report**

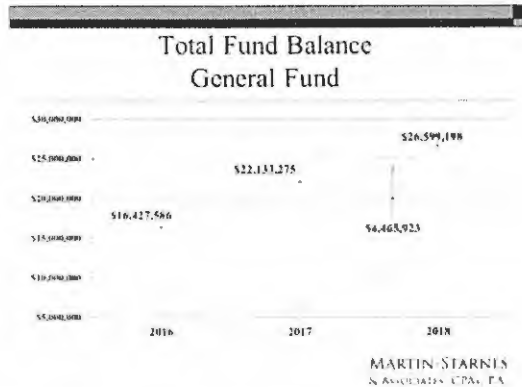
Finance Officer E.J. Prevatte introduced Ko Tang Cha-Moses, representing Martin-Starnes and Associates Accounting Firm, to present the County's FY 2018 Audit Report.

Mrs. Cha-Moses began her presentation by advising the Board that Martin-Starnes submitted an Unmodified Opinion to the Local Government Commission. The Commission received the report prior to the deadline and, upon review, approved the report.



Mrs. Cha-Moses noted that the audit significantly improved from last year; specifically, the number of findings decreased from 14 in the FY 2017 audit to 4 in the FY 2018 audit.

The County's Fund Balance has increased steadily over the past 3 years. From FY 2017 to FY 2018 the Fund Balance increased by \$4,400,000, roughly 20%. Unassigned Fund Balance at the end of FY 2018 was \$21,586,602.



### Fund Balance Position-General Fund

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Fund Balance           | \$26,599,198     |
| Non spendable                | - 11,137         |
| Restricted                   | - 4,180,924      |
| Committed                    | - 231,672        |
| Assigned                     | - <u>588,863</u> |
| Unassigned Fund Balance 2018 | \$ 21,586,602    |
| Unassigned Fund Balance 2017 | \$ 15,940,868    |
| Increase in Unassigned FB    | \$ 5,645,734     |

MARTIN STARNES & ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.

Vice Chairman Southerland asked Mrs. Cha-Moses if this was the same amount that LGC considered available. Mrs. Cha-Moses said that the LGC calculates available fund balance somewhat differently and the LGC's calculation for Hoke County available fund balance would be \$23,493,064.

Vice Chairman Southerland followed up by asking what the fund balance percentage has been the past 3 years. Mrs. Cha-Moses replied that in 2016 the unassigned fund balance percentage was 34.98%, in 2017 the percentage was 42.67% and in 2018 the percentage is 50.84%. For the LGC calculation 2018 has an available fund balance of 55%. In monetary terms, Hoke County's fund balance increased \$5,600,000, roughly 13%.

Chairman Leach commented that having a fund balance this healthy is historic in Hoke County. Several years ago the fund balance dipped to 7%. The minimum fund balance required by the LGC is 8%.

General Fund revenues decreased by less than 1% from FY 2017. Expenditures decreased by 3-1/2% from FY 2017. Hoke County's top 3 revenues and expenditures are as follows:





The County's top 3 revenues in FY 2018 were:

|                              |     |                                 |
|------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Ad Valorem taxes             | 56% | Increase of 2-1/2% over FY 2017 |
| Local Option Sales Tax       | 21% | Slight increase over FY 2017    |
| Restricted Intergovernmental | 16% | Local, State and Federal Grants |

These top 3 revenue sources comprise 92% of the total budget.

The County's top 3 expenditures in FY 2018 were:

|                |     |                               |
|----------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| Other          | 30% |                               |
| Public Safety  | 27% | Decrease of 4.7% from FY 2017 |
| Human Services | 27% | Decrease of 8% from FY 2017   |

The top 3 expenditures comprise 70% of the total budget.

The Water & Sewer fund saw a decrease in Net Position, Cash Flows from Operating Activities, Operating Income and Depreciation Expense, resulting in a loss of approximately \$95,000.

| Enterprise Funds – W&S                 |                    |                    | Enterprise Funds – SW                  |                    |                    |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Water &amp; Sewer District</b>      | <b><u>2018</u></b> | <b><u>2017</u></b> | <b>Solid Waste</b>                     | <b><u>2018</u></b> | <b><u>2017</u></b> |
| Operating Income (Loss)                | \$ 973,420         | \$ 1,162,515       | Operating Income                       | \$ 593,252         | \$ 262,510         |
| Depreciation Expense                   | 1,509,275          | 1,520,163          | Depreciation Expense                   | 114,985            | 97,909             |
| Total Net Position                     | 49,970,576         | 50,171,836         | Total Net Position                     | 5,905,456          | 5,324,346          |
| Unrestricted Net Position              | 8,822,254          | 9,095,155          | Unrestricted Net Position              | 4,530,030          | 3,939,060          |
| Cash Flow from Operating Activities    | 2,820,559          | 2,892,549          | Cash Flow from Operating Activities    | 700,440            | 328,333            |
| Required Debt Service                  | 1,472,660          | 1,574,780          |  |                    |                    |
| MARTIN STARNES<br>& ASSOCIATES, L.P.A. |                    |                    | MARTIN STARNES<br>& ASSOCIATES, L.P.A. |                    |                    |

The Solid Waste fund saw increases in Net Position, Cash Flow from Operating Activities, Operating Income, and Depreciation Expense. There is no debt associated with the Solid Waste fund.

Chairman Leach thanked the County Manager and Finance staff for their hard work in assisting the auditors and improving our audit opinion. Chairman Leach added that he appreciates the efforts made by Finance Officer E.J. Prevatte to reduce the number of audit findings. Vice Chairman Southerland said that he echoed Chairman Leach's comments and added that he appreciates the team work involved in getting the audit done in a timely manner. Finance Officer E.J. Prevatte thanked Mrs. Ko Tang Cha-Moses and her staff for their assistance to the County in preparing the audit.



**Item 6. Appointment of Sgt. Scott McInnis, Hoke County Sheriff Department to JCPC Board**

JCPC Board Chairperson Ron Flippin thanked the Board and the Sheriff for their support of the JCPC program. Mr. Flippin presented a request to the Board seeking approval of the appointment of Sgt. Scott McInnis, Hoke County Sheriff Department, as the Sheriff's designee to the Hoke County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. Sgt. McInnis will replace Sgt. Michael Acello, who recently retired from the Hoke County Sheriff Department.

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Hunt and second by Vice Chairman Southerland, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Sgt. Scott McInnis to the Hoke County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.**

**Item 7. Hoke County Sheriff's Department Items**

**a. Surplus Property Declarations**

Sheriff Hubert Peterkin presented 3 requests to declare property surplus.

James Leach  
Chairman  
Harry Southerland  
Vice Chairman  
Tony Hunt  
Commissioner  
Allen Thomas, Jr.  
Commissioner



Robert Wright  
Commissioner  
Grady Hunt  
County Attorney  
Letitia Edens  
County Manager  
Gwen McGougan  
Clerk to the Board

**RESOLUTION OF THE HOKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND  
AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY**

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the County of Hoke, North Carolina desires to dispose of certain equipment from the Hoke County Sheriff Department as listed below that has been determined as no longer needed by the County

Make/Model          VIN  
2008 Dodge Charger      SB394A4348G23407

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hoke County Board of Commissioners that the listed property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the County and authorizes the disposition of the property in the best interest of the County of Hoke.

ADOPTED on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019

*James Leach*  
James Leach, Chairman  
*Gwen McGougan*  
Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

James Leach  
Chairman  
Harry Southerland  
Vice Chairman  
Tony Hunt  
Commissioner  
Allen Thomas, Jr.  
Commissioner



Robert Wright  
Commissioner  
Grady Hunt  
County Attorney  
Letitia Edens  
County Manager  
Gwen McGougan  
Clerk to the Board

**RESOLUTION OF THE HOKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND  
AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY**

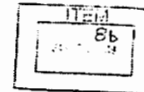
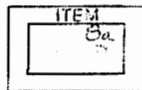
WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the County of Hoke, North Carolina desires to dispose of certain equipment from the Hoke County Sheriff Department as listed below that has been determined as no longer needed by the County

Make/Model          VIN  
2003 Chevy Impala      LG19V756E23926649

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hoke County Board of Commissioners that the listed property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the County and authorizes the disposition of the property in the best interest of the County of Hoke.

ADOPTED on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019

*James Leach*  
James Leach, Chairman  
*Gwen McGougan*  
Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board



James Leach  
Chairman  
Harry Southerland  
Vice Chairman  
Tony Hunt  
Commissioner  
Allen Thomas, Jr.  
Commissioner



Robert Wright  
Commissioner  
Grady Hunt  
County Attorney  
Leticia Edens  
County Manager  
Owen McGougan  
Clerk to the Board

**RESOLUTION OF THE HOKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND  
AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY**

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the County of Hoke, North Carolina desires to dispose of certain equipment from the Hoke County Sheriff Department as listed below that has been determined as no longer needed by the County

Make/Model                      VIN  
2015 Chevrolet Tahoe        1GN6KCKC6FR177725

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hoke County Board of Commissioners that the listed property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the County and authorize the disposition of the property in the best interest of the County of Hoke  
ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019

James Leach, Chairman  
  
Owen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

**Motion: Upon motion by Vice Chairman Southerland and second by Commissioner Hunt, the Board voted unanimously to declare the following vehicles surplus:**

1. 2008 Dodge Charger      VIN 5B3H4A4348H233407
2. 2003 Chevy Impala      VIN 2G1WF55E23936949
3. 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe    VIN 1GNSKCKC6FR177725

b. Sheriff Peterkin presented the following request to appropriate funds to the Federal Asset Forfeiture Account:



**Office of the Sheriff**

Hoke County Sheriff's Office  
HUBERT A. PETERKIN, Sheriff  
179 East 2nd Street                      Hoke, NC 28520                      Phone: (919) 872-7111  
Hoke, NC 28520                      Hoke, NC 28520                      Fax: (919) 872-7534



To: Hoke County Manager Leticia Edens and Finance  
From: Hoke County Sheriff Hubert A. Peterkin  
Re: Vehicle Surplus, Budget Amendment, and Vehicle Purchase  
Date: January 2, 2019

I am requesting that my 2015 Tahoe be listed as surplus property. The vehicle has equity and can be sold as a down payment trade on a new Tahoe. The vehicle (VIN 1GNSKCKC6FR177725) currently has 106,000 miles. The vehicle was purchased from a auction and is less efficient than in value. The purchase of a new vehicle is in the range of a new fully equipped Dodge Charger. The new vehicle will be purchased from the Federal Asset Account in the amount of \$39,000. As with all assets the time limit associated with the purchase is limited due to rules set and on the trade in and time of quote.  
I am requesting to increase appropriations to the Federal Asset Forfeiture Account to the amount of \$39,000.

Hubert A. Peterkin, MPA  
Hoke County Sheriff

cc: James Leach, Chairman  
Harry Southerland, Vice Chairman  
Tony Hunt, Commissioner  
Robert Wright, Commissioner  
Allen Thomas, Commissioner  
Leticia Edens, Finance Director  
Curtis Ferguson, Finance Officer

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Hunt and second by Vice Chairman Southerland, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Sheriff's request to appropriate \$39,600.00 to the Federal Asset Forfeiture Account.**

- c. Sheriff Peterkin introduced Sgt. Davies and Office Serrano. Both are K-9 handlers. Their K-9s, both Belgian Malinois, are Rocky and Cash. Rocky and Cash have aged out of the K-9 program and are experiencing age-related health issues. They have been part of the Hoke County Sheriff Department since 2009 and are responsible for numerous arrests as well as locating missing persons. These dogs receive their commands in German and it would be best for them to place them with their handlers.

Sheriff Peterkin added that these K-9s have been replaced.

**Motion: Upon motion by Vice Chairman Southerland and second by Commissioner Hunt, the Board voted unanimously to declare Cash and Rocky surplus to the needs of the County and allow them to remain with their handlers.**

#### **Item 8. Manager's Report**

County Manager Letitia Edens advised the Board that she is meeting with department heads on Tuesday, January 9, 2019 to discuss the FY 2018.

A Parks & Recreation survey has been published and a link is available online at the County's website. Citizens without internet access can call and have a survey mailed to them with a self-addressed stamped envelope. The County needs 3% of the population to complete the survey.

Vice Chairman Southerland asked Mrs. Edens about the status of the grant that Ms. Christina Davis-McCoy is working on. Mrs. Edens replied that the requirements for the PARTF grant application may not be ready by their deadline. Mrs. Edens is exploring other options, such as USDA and other grant sources.

Mrs. Edens added that she is meeting with Cooperative Extension on Wednesday, January 9, and they are participating in a webinar with Bobbitt Design-Build to discuss the Cooperative Extension building. Chairman Leach said to keep this project moving.

Vice Chairman Southerland commented that there needs to be research on what will be required to staff these buildings.

Commissioner Thomas said that he wants to implore the County Attorney to aggressively seek solutions to allow the County to assist the residents of Northwoods Subdivision with the road flooding problem.

Vice Chairman Southerland said that he agrees with Commissioner Thomas and cited past project that enabled the Board to make an exception to the general rule of law.

Chairman Leach added that the Board will consider any legal avenue that the County Attorney can find. County Attorney Grady Hunt said that he wants to begin his research by looking at the maps showing the easement between Northwoods and Savannah Chase.

Commissioner Thomas asked that, since the drainage area is on private property, is there a way that the County could access the area and clean out the canal. The cost would be assessed to the property owners. Chairman Leach suggested checking the canal area for water lines. Vice Chairman Southerland said that the County Attorney should investigate to see if there's any means that the County can help. If not, perhaps other County departments could assist.

Another Northwoods resident asked to comment and he said that due to the elevations there will always be debris and sediment no matter how well the area is maintained.

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Vice Chairman Southerland, the Board voted unanimously to make a formal request to the NC Department of Transportation to clean out the drainage areas.**

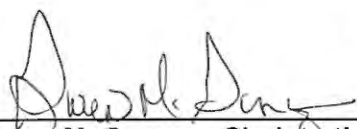
**Item 9. Closed Session**

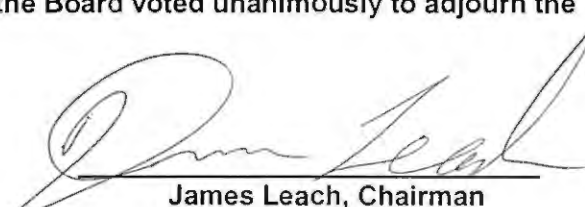
**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Wright the Board voted unanimously to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of consulting with an attorney retained by the Board, in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the Board NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)**

**Motion: Upon motion by Commissioner Hunt and second by Vice Chairman Southerland, the Board voted unanimously to return to Open Session.**

**Item 10. Adjourn**

**Motion: With no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners and upon motion by Commissioner Hunt and second by Vice Chairman Southerland the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.**

  
Gwen McGougan, Clerk to the Board

  
James Leach, Chairman

**APPROVED**

JAN 23 2019

Hoke Co. Governing Body