

Bill Lawhon
Commissioner

Brandon King
Commissioner

Mike Barbee
Commissioner

Patty Crump
Commissioner



Peter Asciutto
Commissioner

Scott Efird
Commissioner

Trent Hatley
Commissioner

**STANLY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Bill Lawhon	Commissioner	Present	
Brandon King	Commissioner	Present	
Mike Barbee	Commissioner	Present	
Patty Crump	Commissioner	Present	
Peter Asciutto	Commissioner	Present	
Scott Efird	Commissioner	Present	
Trent Hatley	Commissioner	Present	

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The Stanly County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") met in regular session on Monday, October 16, 2023 in the Gene McIntyre Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chair Efird called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. , gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

With no amendments to the agenda, Commissioner King moved to approve it as presented, seconded by Commissioner Lawhon and carried by unanimous vote.

SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Deese of Tyson Road in the Aquadale Community noted concerns with the quality of the well water available on his property as well as the surrounding areas and requested Board consideration in extending county water to it.

2. Veterans Operation Green Light Initiative

Presenter: Bo Almond, Veteran Services Officer

In honor of Veterans Day, VSO Bo Almond presented a resolution to request that Stanly County join the NC Association of County Commissioners, the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veterans Services Officers in Operation Green Light by

illuminating county buildings with green lights from November 6 - 12, 2023 as a show of support for military veterans statewide and across the country.

Commissioner Lawhon moved to approve the resolution of support, seconded by Commissioner Hatley and carried by a 7 - 0 vote.

Exhibit A
Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Lawhon, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Trent Hatley, Commissioner
AYES:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Asciutto, Efird, Hatley

3. Senior Services Advisory Board Appointments

Presenter: Pamela Sullivan, Senior Services Director

The Senior Services Advisory Board (SSAB) has three (3) members whose terms will expire October 31, 2023. They are Beth Hill, Don Morrison and Phyllis Smith. Following a review of the volunteer applications, the SSAB recommended Nadine Bowers, Jan Goetz and Joshua Morton to fill these vacancies for a three (3) year term ending October 31, 2026.

By motion, Commissioner King moved to approve the appointments as presented, seconded by Commissioner Asciutto and passed by a 7 - 0 vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brandon King, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Mike Barbee, Commissioner
AYES:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Asciutto, Efird, Hatley

4. Consolidated Human Services Board Appointments

Presenter: David Jenkins

This item was tabled until the November 6, 2023 meeting.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 11/6/2023 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Patty Crump, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Trent Hatley, Commissioner	
AYES:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Asciutto, Efird, Hatley	

5. Will's Place - Opioid Settlement Funding Request

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

County Manager Lucas stated that Will's Place submitted a request for \$60,000 in Opioid Settlement funding for a one (1) year term beginning November 1, 2023 - October 31, 2024. Staff recommended instead that funds in the amount of \$40,000 be allocated for the period of November 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 in order to align all of the Opioid Settlement funding

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requests with the County's fiscal year which ends June 30th. As a result, Will's Place will still receive the same monthly prorated amount of \$5,000 as the previous year and can reapply for additional funding effective July 1, 2024. Both the EMS Community Paramedic Program and Health Department staff expressed their support of the request stating that Will's Place is a good partner and plays a vital role in the community's opioid misuse disorder mitigation strategy.

Following the presentation, the County Manager responded to questions concerning the alignment and timing of agencies' applications for funding, how the dollar amount of funds for each agency will be determined as opioid funding decreases over time, if unused funds carry over to next fiscal year and the total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement funds the county will receive.

As information, Representative Wayne Sasser reported that as a result of a multi-state deal involving North Carolina, there will be an additional \$600 million coming to the state in 2024 which is expected to double the amount of funding Stanly County will receive.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Ascianto moved to approve the Opioid Settlement funding request for Will's Place for a period of eight (8) months not to exceed \$40,000, seconded by Commissioner King and passed by unanimous vote.

See Exhibit B
A Resolution by the County of Stanly
to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peter Ascianto, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Brandon King, Commissioner
AYES:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Ascianto, Efird, Hatley

6. Opioid Settlement Funds - Strategic Planning

Presenter: Jann Lowder

CHS Board Chair Jann Lowder thanked the Board for the opportunity to come before them to share how the Consolidated Human Services (CHS) Board came to the decision to recommend contracting with Dr. Shanta Dube as a facilitator to help with strategic planning for Opioid Settlement funding, Option A of the MOA. The contract would be for a three (3) month term not to exceed \$15,000.

Following the presentation, the Board asked questions regarding Dr. Dube's qualifications and who would serve on the proposed task force to work with Dr. Dabue to develop the process.

Commissioner King expressed concerns that the requested \$15,000 could help 6 - 7 people instead of paying a facilitator's salary. He also added that the NCACC provides a similar service which the county has access to at no additional cost. Commissioner Ascianto responded that

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Dr. Dube would help establish the process from the time of application through final evaluation to ensure all of the contract requirements are met by the agencies that receive funding.

Commissioner Hatley asked if there is existing county staff who can work with the CHS board to create such a plan. County Manager Lucas responded that he assumes county staff would be a part of the task force to help with the strategic planning process to include the development of the forms and applications. Instead, it is more of a question as to whether or not the Board wants to increase staff's workload by helping to develop the process over a longer period of time, or hire someone to focus on that task with staff's input in order to complete it within a shorter time frame.

Commissioner Crump stated her support of a task force, but expressed concerns with spending \$15,000 to pay a salary when it can help someone who is struggling. She instead proposed a compromise in which a multi-disciplinary task force would be established and make recommendations to County Manager Lucas on the best way to spend the funds.

Commissioner Asciutto stated his support of the contract and encouraged the other Board members to do so as well. He expressed concerns that if a process is not put in place, the funds could be misallocated and will not benefit those who need it the most. He then moved to approve the contract with Dr. Shanta Dube for a three (3) month term not to exceed \$15,000. Chair Efird seconded the motion to allow for further discussion.

The motion to approve the contract with Dr. Dube failed by a 5 - 2 vote.

Ayes: Chair Efird, Commissioner Asciutto

Nos: Vice Chair Barbee, Commissioner Crump, Commissioner Hatley, Commissioner King, Commissioner Lawhon

RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 5]
MOVER:	Peter Asciutto, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Scott Efird, Commissioner
AYES:	Asciutto, Efird
NAYS:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Hatley

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Asciutto moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Crump and carried by a 7 - 0 vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peter Asciutto, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Patty Crump, Commissioner
AYES:	Lawhon, King, Barbee, Crump, Asciutto, Efird, Hatley

A. Minutes - October 2, 2023 Work Session & Regular Meeting

B. Finance - Approval of the vehicle tax refunds for September 2023

C. Economic Development - Budget Amendment for Building Reuse Grant

D. Social Services - APS Essential Services

E. SCC Water Line Project - Budget Amendment # 2024-31

F. Facilities - Request to Sell Surplus

G. NC Dept. of Insurance Funding - Budget Amendment # 2024-32

H. Memorandum of Agreement - NC State Extension

I. Fireworks Display Request - Hilltop Farm

BOARD COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Crump restated her support of having a multi-disciplinary task force created to help develop a process for the allocation of the County's opioid settlement funds rather than paying \$15,000 to a facilitator.

Chair Efird thanked Representative Wayne Sasser for his help in getting a state budget passed and bringing the good news that additional opioid settlement funds will be coming to the county next year.

ADJOURN

Commissioner King moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Crump and carried by unanimous vote at 6:48 p.m.

T. Scott Efird, Chair

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk